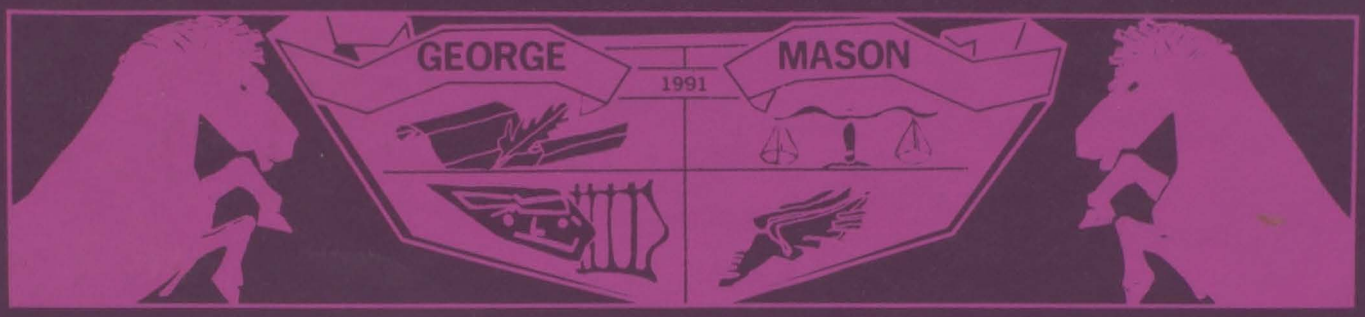
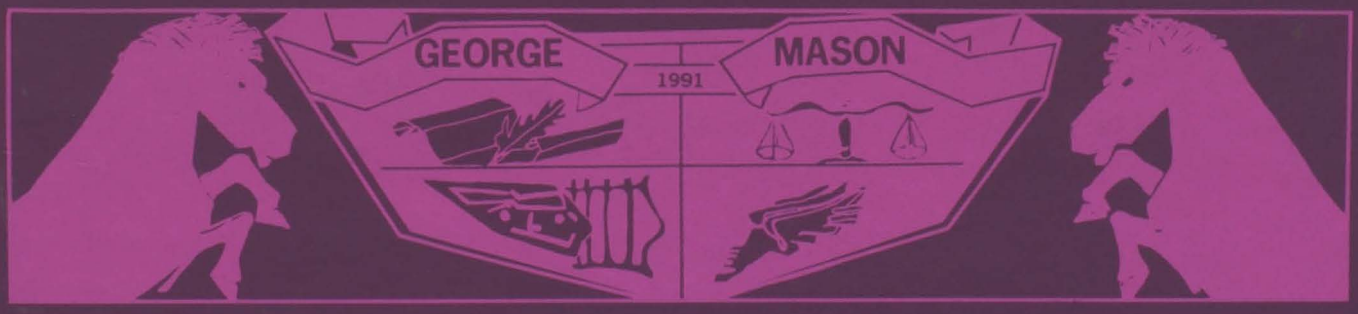
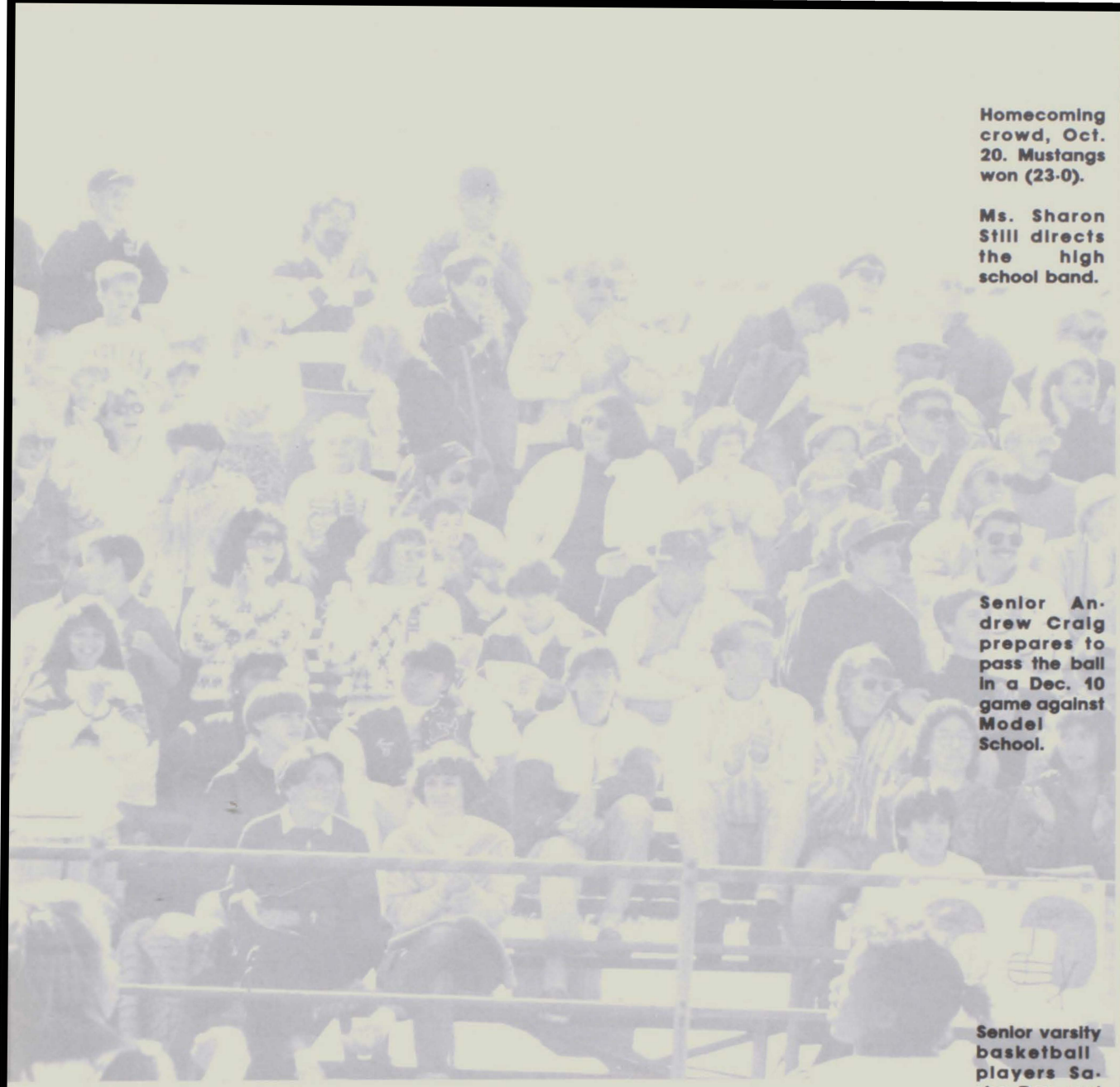
UNMISTAKABLY



MUSTANG

1991





Homecoming crowd, Oct. 20. Mustangs won (23-0).

Ms. Sharon Still directs the high school band.

Senior Andrew Craig prepares to pass the ball in a Dec. 10 game against Model School.

Senior varsity basketball players Sasha Day and Carolina Naupari ring the bell at the homecoming pep rally.

Unmistakably Mustang
1990

George Mason High School

7124 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, Va. 22043
Phone 703-241-7620
Grades 9-12
Volume 40

Ms. Sharon Newcome helps sophomore Carlos Paz in reading.

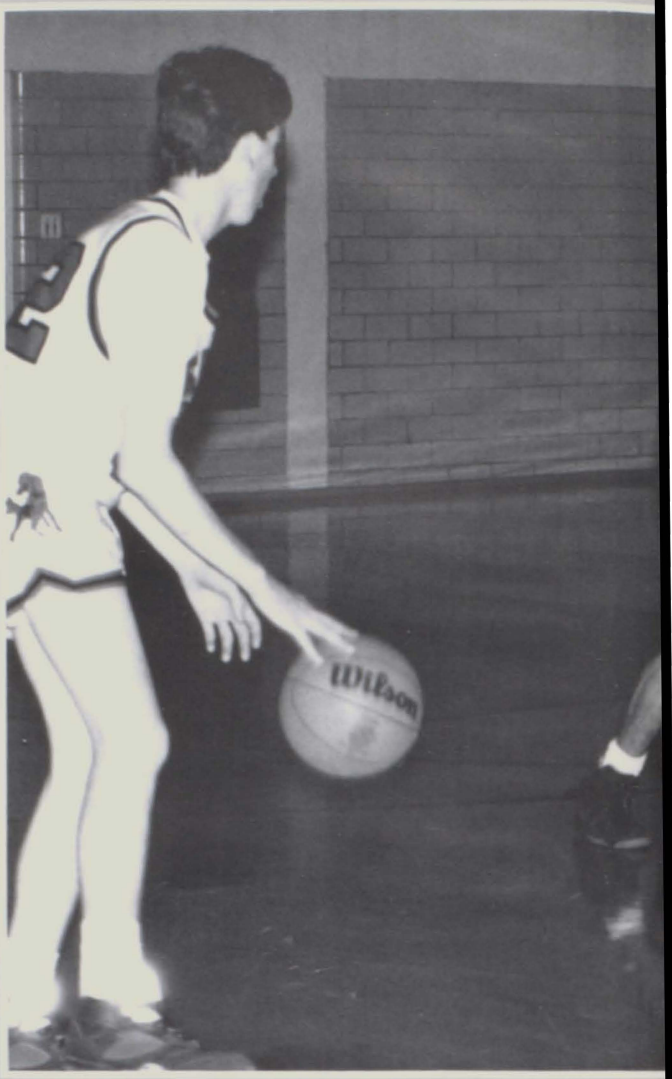
Mustang
All the way

"George Mason's like a free private school," said senior Christy Ploch. How many public schools could make that claim?

Freshman Lydia Doleman added, "It's probably the only school where everyone knows everybody else." A small student body and staff translated into what freshman Brian Mercer called, "A closely knit school."

A challenge statement set the tone in September. Mustangs became "a community of learners." We took pride in who we were and what we were. "We" consisted of students from nine foreign countries.

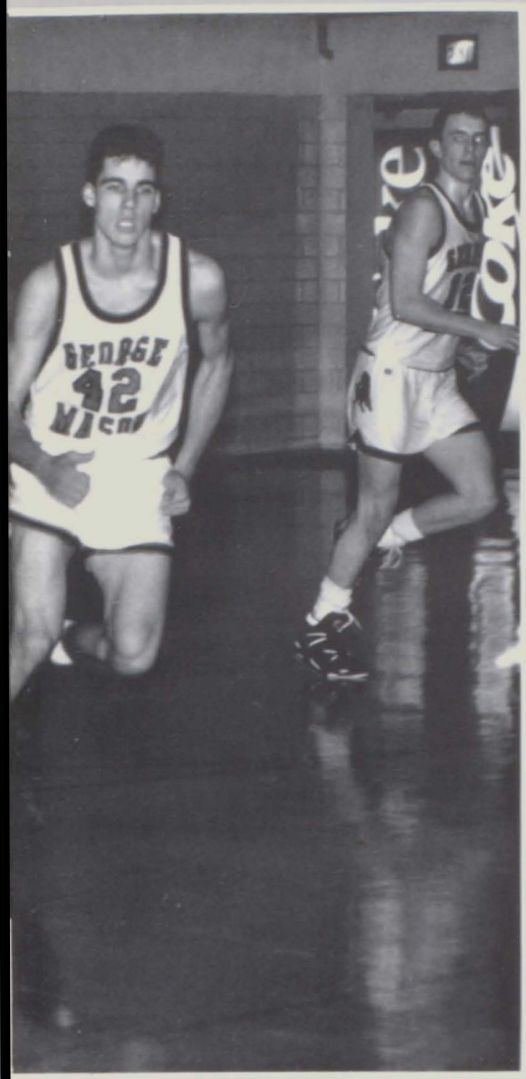
Junior Tallison Rausch described our school as "a small slice of the real world." George Mason was unmistakably a unique place.



1-800: Sophomores Margaret Muller and Rob Hartman enjoy contacting their Latin II Electronic Classroom instructor. They were the only students enrolled in the Electronic Classroom/Distance Learning program (VSEN), which was supervised by Ms. Eileen Backofen.

A typical scene. Students wait for their busses outside the gymnasium entrance during September. Busses picked up students from 2:50 to 3:40 p.m.

Lighting the symbolic white candle, National Honor Society President Thu Do (senior) begins the October 10 Inductions Ceremony.



Against Model on December 10, sophomore Josh McCall comes off a pick to receive a pass from junior Chris Madison. Junior Peter Murchie is at the right. (Mustangs won, 47-45.)

Challenge Statement

At George Mason We Are Striving To Be An Exciting And Distinctive Community Of Learners. We Value Collaboration In Learning And Development. We Care For Each Other And Take Pride In And Responsibility For Our Individual And Mutual Growth And Accomplishments. We Celebrate Our Diversity And Seek To Foster Respect For All In The Community Through Global Awareness And Appreciation Of Our Individual And Cultural Differences.

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Face-painted sophomores Katherine Temple and Eugenia Leachman talk to freshman Liv Nordin (in the center) before the Homecoming Game.

Unmistakably

Mustang Student Life

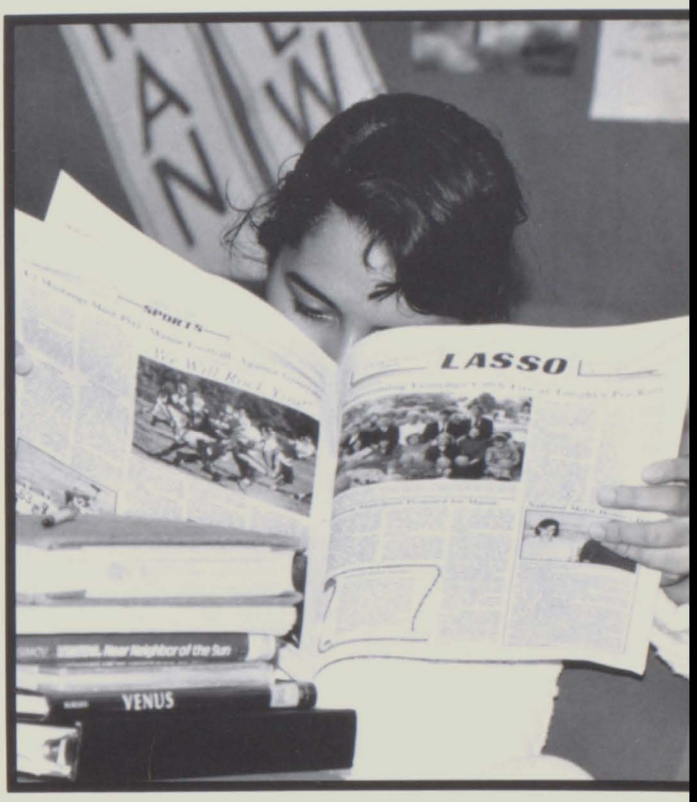
"My year is busy, very busy," said senior Lorraine Hahn. In a school where student life meant that something was going on from early morning hours through evening hours, Mustangs were all busy from September through June.

Senior Andrew Burk said, "I like how you can get involved in anything and everything here."

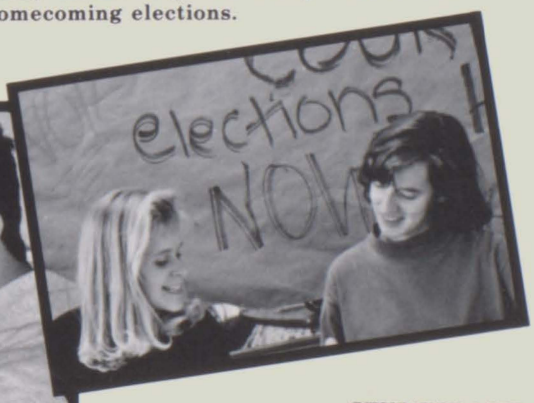
Mustangs who wanted to be "couch potatoes" away from home had a rough time. The school spirit bug bit just about everybody.

The Student Council breathed a lot of life into the student body. They encouraged all students to become a part of the Mustang family.

Student life went outside the school's four walls. It reached out to the community through service projects and fund raisers. Student life was unmistakably Mustangs in action.



Hot off the press! Freshman Trina Mangroo reads the first issue of *Lasso,* the school's award-winning newspaper. This issue was distributed on October 19. Below: Jessica Menendez and Rob Rosholt head for home at 3 P.M.; Margaret Bryant and Melvin Rivera eat TA donuts; seniors Molly Henneberg and Cindy Wilson run homecoming elections.



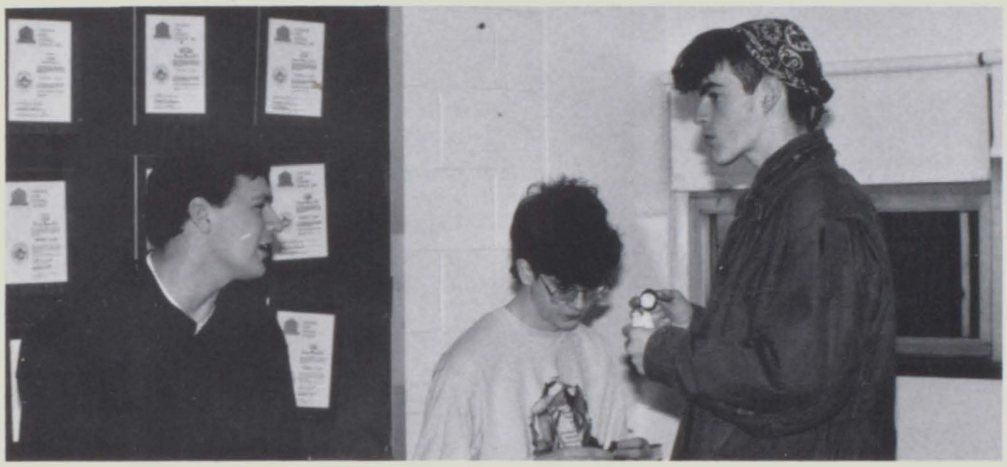
Carnation Day. David Montag reads aloud a note attached to the white carnation he received in TA during homecoming week. (Seth Kingsley is on the right.) They were in Ms. Nancy Tucker's freshman TA.

At right, Lasso delivery time. Ms. Gail Meighan's sophomore advisees, Ian McCommons and Peter Oh, read the December 19 issue of the school newspaper.

"TA is interesting. It's one relaxed moment during the day."
- Roget Bryan

"I love the donuts!"
- Rob Rosholt

Celebration time. Amie Camden helps Vanna Lam cut and serve her birthday cake during TA in Ms. Nancy Tucker's room.



Shop talk. Mr. Michael Hoover's advisees discuss the next *Lasso* issue. All were staff editors. *From left:* Craig Sirkin, Mike Lake, John Blackwell.

"TA's cool. I get to sleep, do second period's homework, eat or just chill."
- Carolina Naupari

Donut Day. Freshman Ned Stitt sits back and enjoys a powdered donut during TA. Friday was the traditional "donut day."

A Nice, Cozy Place

"Good morning, Mustangs!" Dr. Thoms' voice could be heard over the loudspeaker almost every morning at the beginning of TA.

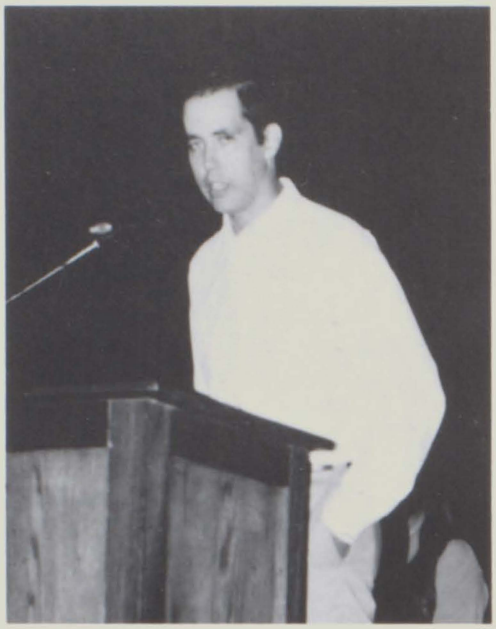
During the next seven minutes from 8:38 to 8:45 A.M. students accomplished the impossible. It was amazing how much homework could be completed in such a short period of time.

But you didn't have to work. The concept of TA (teacher advisee period) was unique. Most schools had large, impersonal homeroom periods where you were just one of many students. Our TA system was different. You wanted to be there because it was a nice, cozy place.

"TA's great! It's like a break after first period," commented Sherrell Brown, Ms. Mary Rita Ciciarelli's advisee. You could hang out, clear your head and get warm fuzzies from your TA.

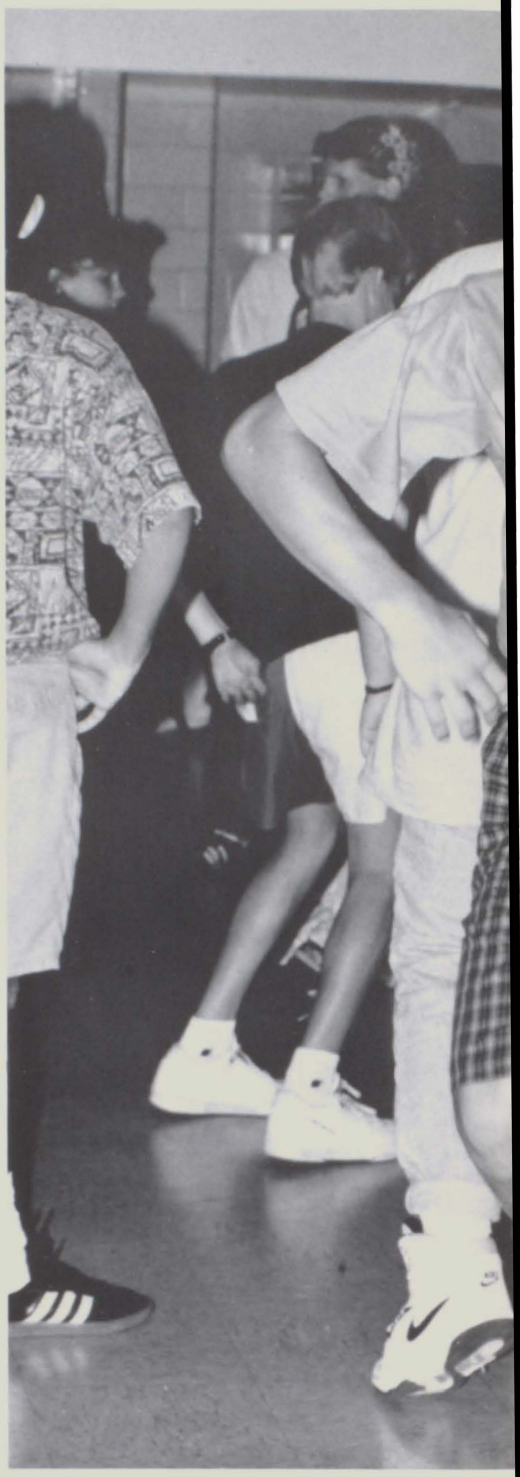
Some business had to be taken care of. "Who's buying donuts on Friday?" "Who has Giant and Safeway receipts?" "Who's playing in the TA volleyball tournament?" And so on.

Once the bell rang, everyone scattered. Well, it was fun while it lasted.



At the podium, Mr. Jaime Tucker addresses the audience at the opening day assembly on September 4. George Mason students and staff raised over $20,000 last year to help Jaime have a bone marrow transplant to save his life.

For a finale, Ms. Sharon Still conducts the woodwind section of the high school band at the end of the pep rally on September 7.



What A Week!

SEPTEMBER, 1990 - SUMMER'S OVER!

Alarm clocks, bus schedules, deadlines, work, team practice, club meetings. And so began the first week of the new school year. "The hardest part of the day is getting up to go to first period," said junior Andre Carley. With over two hundred "first periods" to get through, students wished for a "Total Recall" experience to whisk them off to a beach with their friends. It just didn't happen. School was underway.

The first week back hit hard. In fact, it was merciless. Each day included a special assembly or class meeting as well as regular classes. A pep rally and Student Council dance on Friday, September 7, were rewards for living through the week.

Seniors suffered from premature "senioritis" because they had to get down to college business. Class President Sasha Day looked on the bright side of life: "As seniors we are finally together. We're one big, happy family."

Freshman Frankie Good stated, "There's just more work and responsibility." Underclassmen felt the pressure, but they learned coping skills quickly.

For sophomores and juniors, being closer to the top and to graduation helped a lot. Sophomore Justin Reich said, "At least we are not at the bottom anymore."

"I'll remember meeting all the new people."
- Rebecca Sullivan

"I had a migraine."
- Lisa Bolivar

Getting into it, freshman Seth Kingsley dances at the first school dance on September 7. It was sponsored by the Student Council.

Freshman fun. Bernie Hernandez and Ingrid Stenbergh enjoy their first high school dance.

Leading the way, junior Katey Gray shows the dance steps to sophomores Beth Cory and Mandy Riedel.

"This is totally new to me, since I'm not from here. School is more relaxing compared to mine in Belgium."

- Alex Dolmans

At the first game of the football season, Mustangs make the tackle against Bishop Ireton on Saturday afternoon, September 8.

Branching Out

"The way people who weren't your friends became your friends - this was the best part of Camp Overlook!" exclaimed Chris Parrish, freshman class representative.

On September 13 forty freshmen through seniors boarded a school bus for Camp Overlook near Harrisonburg, Virginia, to spend three days at a Student Council leadership retreat. Participants were encouraged to branch out and make new friends by joining in group activities. They had to take a risk to do this.

Freshman R.C. Dennee said, "The best thing about the retreat was that everyone learned to work together, cooperate and trust each other. We became better people while trying to improve our school."

Christy Ploch, Senior Class Vice-President, said that "school spirit is people willfully participating in school activities with enthusiasm." Camp Overlook's success was based on the theory that students who share a common goal (to improve their school) will also become better friends by spending quality time together.

Besides accomplishing a lot, the different classes had plenty of good, old-fashioned fun.

> "I enjoyed the trip to Overlook. I got to know people I have never really spent time with before."
> - Eugenia Leachman

> "Working in our groups was fun, especially when we accomplished something as a team."
> - Alberto Suarez

Serious stuff. Freshman class president Alberto Suarez holds up a poster board that lists the agenda for the freshman class discussion group.

Setting the tone, Ms. Erin Albright (Co-sponsor of the Student Council) and Dr. George Thoms meet with the freshman class participants.

Camp Overlook Group Participants by grade: *Seniors* Debbie Cory, Sasha Day, Mitch Falter, Zach Falter, Sven Gronlie, Molly Henneberg, Ari Losman, Heather McGavin, John Pitfido, Christy Ploch, Allen Scully, Aaron Spevacek, Susan Stitt, Pilar Viccellio, Cheryl Whitaker, Alyssa Wilson, Cindy Wilson; *juniors* Emily Hall, Stephanie Jones, Peter Murchie, Megan Noyes, Brian Sullivan, John Yates; *sophomores* Margaret Bryant, Ana Gupta, Eugenia Leachman, Matt Quinn, Mandy Riedel, Aaron Smith, Lindsay Smith, Michelle Yoder; *freshmen* Sara Brock, Richard Dennee, Lars Howlett, Lauren Kramer-Dover, Liv Nordin, Chris Parrish, Samantha Petrich, Alberto Suarez. *Chaperones* were Dr. George Thoms, Mr. Greg Alexiou, Ms. Erin Albright, and Ms. Anna Kibble.

Unstructured time. Seniors Cindy Wilson and Molly Henneberg enjoy each other's company while getting some fresh air.

Old-fashioned fun. Senior Mitch Falter tries his hand at table tennis.

Official business. Seniors Christy Ploch (Vice-President), Sasha Day (President), and John Pitfido (Class Representative) discuss senior class goals.

Class of '92. Juniors Emily Hall and Deepa Menon work together on a sign for the junior hallway. Their hall was the English wing, which they decorated with streamers, signs and a paper carpet.

Delivery time. Varsity cheerleaders Susie Hill and Tamara Droujinsky (sophomores) take bunches of red and white carnations to students in TA's. Carnation Day, a fundraiser for cheerleaders, was on Thursday, October 18.

Teamwork. Freshmen Sean Polzer and R.C. Dennee decorate the freshman hallway with red and white streamers. Freshmen were responsible for the foreign language hallway, which won second place.

Award-winning balloons. Seniors Allen Scully, Sheryl Whitaker and Tri Thai prepare red and white balloons for the main hallway's decorating.

Giving a pep talk, Assistant Soccer Coach Karen Amacher gets ready to introduce the girls' soccer teams at the pep rally held on Friday night, October 19. To her left is Mr. Jack Gambill, Athletic Director, who organized the rally, which was held outside from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

With the blazing bonfire behind them, the girls' varsity soccer team jokes around and forms a line. Individual players were introduced and asked to ring the iron bell before joining their teams.

It takes two. Varsity cheerleaders Medena Small and Liz Honesty share the job of ringing and turning over the bell.

"School spirit generates usually through pep rallies.'
- Heather Anderson

"School spirit is everyone giving support, getting involved, and showing enthusiasm."
- Liz Honesty

Mustang "T" Time

Tradition - another word for G.M.'s Homecoming Week. It was a time for us to engage in six days of super, non-stop activities. We thought they'd wear us out, but they only helped that spirit index soar for the game on Saturday, October 20, against Stonewall.

"It's traditional and fun," observed freshman Amie Camden, who stirred up the pep rally crowd with her JV cheerleader's pompoms on Friday.

Part of the tradition was following different dress codes each day of the week. Even teachers showed their spirit by wearing pajamas on Junior Day and football players' jerseys on Senior Day.

This was the fourth homecoming week for seniors, but traditional didn't mean boring. "This one was awesome," said Alyssa Wilson. She added, "It was a time for friends to get together and have a good time."

We all competed in Tuesday's hall decorating contest. Class officers organized the event, which involved working as teams to cover our designated hallways with the traditional red-and-white. The seniors won, of course. They always did!

Sophomore Katherine Temple said, "I really liked how everyone came together." The Mustangs did break tradition, however, by having the pep rally outside under floodlights on Friday night. It was a big success.

A Victorious Day

"Homecoming Day was like a big birthday party," said senior Alex Dolmans, a new student from Europe. We understood his description. Saturday, October 19, had just what it takes to throw a successful party: happy people getting together to celebrate an occasion.

Who were the happy people? We Mustangs, of course.

What was the occasion? Our playing and beating Stonewall Jackson (23-0), if "beating" is the word!

The day began early with the traditional sports breakfast. "The best part of the day was the breakfast for athletes,"said Luis Ventura.

Kick-off was at 2:00 p.m. The bleachers were packed with students, alumni, teachers, parents, and friends from the community. At half-time the Homecoming Court couples were introduced and chauffeured around the track. Seniors John Pitfido and Pilar Viccellio were crowned "King and Queen." The procession went smoothly because the cheerleaders, who were in charge, assumed their responsibilities.

We yelled the loudest when we won the game, knowing we could really celebrate at the senior-sponsored dance.

Seniors made over $500 at the dance, which was held in the dining hall from 9 to 1:00 a.m. Molly Henneberg said, "It was all such fun. We danced all night and had a blast."

"Homecoming was great! We won the football game, and I had a great dinner before the dance."
- Zach Falter

"The best part was winning the football game!"
- Lance Guckenberger

Before the game, sophomore Michelle Yoder sings the National Anthem.

Facing the crowd, the varsity cheerleaders wave their pompoms to end a cheer. *Front Row:* Medina Small, Liz Honesty, Stacy Russ, Katey Gray, Emily Hall. *Back Row:* Meg Bryant, Susie Hill, Beth Cory, Mandy Riedel, Tamara Droujinsky.

"Homecoming was great. Everybody was hyped up, and the team won. (I scored!)"
- Andrew Swift

"What I liked best about Homecoming was the excitement of students and teachers."
- Katherine Temple

Pursued by Stonewall Jackson guard Chris Litten, sophomore Peter Oh, running back #30, avoids the tackle. (Mason's #74, sophomore Jeff Anderson, and #65, senior Zach Falter, move in from the rear.)

In barefeet, junior Erin Stobo and sophomores Karen Jacomet and Chrissy Rosholt dance together at the Homecoming Dance.

The Homecoming Court poses for a group picture at the end of the half-time festivities. *From left:* sophomores Sonia Zepeda and Josh McCall; seniors Christy Ploch and Andrew Craig, Heather McGavin and Zach Falter, Debbie Cory and Mitch Falter, King John Pitfido and Queen Pilar Viccellio, Sasha Day, Allen Scully and Hannah Burke; juniors Adam Jarrett and Christine Walsh; freshmen Seth Kingsley and Samantha Petrich.

Left, at the mike, head football coach Lou Sorrentino announces the Homecoming Court. From left, Christy Ploch, Mr. Sorrentino, Dr. George Thoms and Allen Scully.

"Being part of the play really helped me to work with actors with so much talent. I learned a lot."
- Lauren Kramer-Dover

A group shot. The Memorandum cast poses for a formal picture. *Front Row:* Anu Gupta, Meg Wiant, Susan Phillips. *Second Row:* Reid Hecker, Lorraine Hahn, Matt Kern, Rosemary Ragusa, Ellen Wright. *Back Row:* Daniel Brown.

Tough tactics. Junior Wayne Ferrebee plays Lear, who lectures his teacher's pet, the syncophantic clerk Ms. Thumb (junior Natanya Barrow).
Below, Daniel Brown (Dr. Savant), Lorraine Hahn (Helena) and Matt Kern (Gross) pause in character.

A True Challenge!

Although author Vaclav Havel (and president of Czechoslovakia) didn't attend, the Drama Department's production of his play *The Memorandum* was a roaring success. An absurdist comedy, this story revolved around Josef Gross (Matt Kern), the director of a large, nameless bureaucracy. As the play opened, Gross had just received a memorandum in what appeared to be gibberish.

After much investigation Gross discovers that it is written in Ptedype, a new office language designed to increase office communications. It was introduced by Jan Ballas (Ellen Wright) in an attempt to take over the company. These two main characters disagreed on this issue, and the play chronicled their power struggle to control the company.

Rehearsals began in early October and were demanding because the play was so sophisticated. The dedicated cast had to learn to speak Ptedype, no easy task. Absurdist theatre was a genre the cast was unfamiliar with as well. Mr. Jeff Cronin, director, said, "I chose this play because it is about bureaucracy, and so is Washington."

Although the play was a tough challenge to stage, the cast felt it was worth the effort. Matt Kern said, "It's one of the most complicated plays ever written, but it's a story that needs to be told."

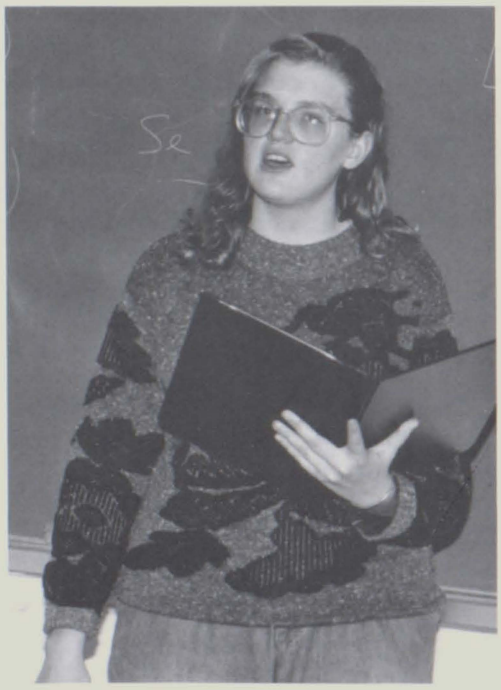
Scarlet Wynns, a comical character, added, "I had a great part. I loved it!"

Tickets went on sale for four dollars, and the play was performed on three consecutive evenings from November 1 through 3. It began at 8:00 p.m. and with an intermission lasted until 10 p.m.

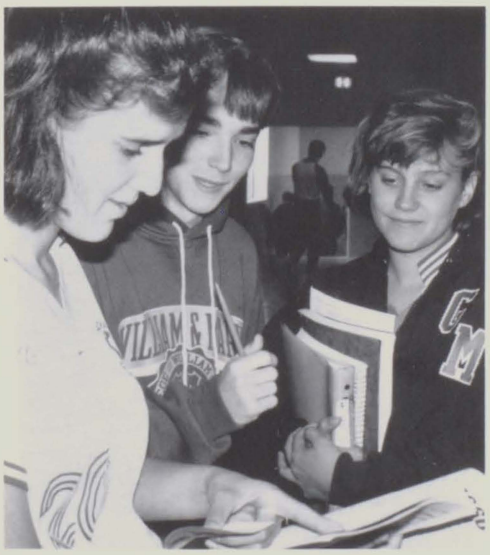
Senior Rayne McGee was student director. She acted as an organizer who helped coordinate rehearsals and run the show smoothly. She said, "I sort of played everyone's mama. It liked my role."

Above, Mr. Jeff Cronin, Director, talks to the cast and advises them on their acting. Mr. Cronin was a permanent substitute teacher who directed the fall and spring plays as well as the Junior Variety Show. He was also a professional actor in the metropolitan area.
Above left, power-hungry Mr. Pillar (played by senior Kate Chamberlin) delivers a persuasive speech to a translater (junior Reid Hecker), Dr. Savant (senior Daniel Brown), and Helena (senior Lorraine Hahn).
Left, a casual moment, Junior Adriana Anderson (a staff watcher) and senior Rosemary Ragusa (a secretary) take a break during rehearsal.

Against St. Anselm on September 26, senior Andrew Craig (#18) rushes in to recover the ball. Andrew was a team captain who received the trophy for MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER for boys' soccer. *Below right,* sophomore trombone player Paul Whichard performs at the Annual Winter Concert on December 14. Paul was the youngest Mason student to qualify for the All State Band at the District XI band audition held on December 8. *Right,* Dr. George Thoms presents senior Liz Honesty, varsity cheerleader, with the MOST OUTSTANDING TROPHY at the December 3 Fall Sports Awards Program.



"Who Should Be In Congress?" Junior Jane Brock, Forensics president, reads Gordon B. Carson's speech during a practice session. Jane competed in declamation speeches. *Right,* seniors Craig Sirkin and Pilar Viccellio participate in the October 5 Model United Nations simulation at Robinson High School. Craig received second place.



Lasso staffers Matt Kern and Heather McGavin get feedback from junior Christine Walsh. Last year's *Lasso* won a VHSL trophy.

It's A Good Thing

What was an eleven-lettered word starting with "C" that meant something good for the students?

Answer: COMPETITION!

Lasso Editor Molly Henneberg, a senior, wrote about the pros-and-cons of competition in the October 19 issue. Addressing the good, she wrote, "Competition carries us and our society ahead and improves our life."

The student body agreed with the positive aspects of competition, which was a major driving force in sports. Cross country runner Chris Yates said, "Competition is good. I set higher standards and push myself to perform well."

Vicky Spevacek, winner of the Outstanding Player Trophy for girls' basketball, agreed: "It brings out the best skills in everyone."

Competition made its way into TA's who competed throughout the year in collecting Giant and Safeway receipts. The top forty TA's in collections were published weekly. Students and teachers just wanted to be a part of the contest.

Trina Mangroo commented, "Competition is good because it brings the school together. You want to win."

Ms. Henneberg noted that competition "can become a destructive force." Students sometimes were guilty of its "one-upmanship," but in general competition raised the school spirit index.

A Cooperating Crew

"We used up a lot of Saturdays to get the show ready, but when we finally put it on, it was worth it," said freshman Moji Ojumu. She was one of eight members of the Junior Variety Stage Crew that worked after school and into the nights as well to help the juniors fatten their bank account.

Traditionally, juniors sponsored the Junior-Senior Prom held in May. Proceeds from the JV Show helped pay for this event. After reimbursing people who paid for materials, the juniors cleared about $1,300. They were very pleased, even though the band for the prom cost more than that!

Students from all grades got involved with the show. Twelve acts made up Act I, and fourteen made up Act II. That was a lot of participants. Key words became "organization" and "commitment" in order to pull off this three-night extravaganza, which opened at 8 p.m. on November 29.

There were a lot of "chiefs" as well as "Indians" to guarantee the show's success. Mr. Jeff Cronin was director; Mr. John Ballou was technical director. Junior Joe Gross was student director, aided by several skilled student technicians.

Senior Greg Shannon, in charge of 1800 watts of sound, said, "The hardest part is getting a good mix by constantly changing volumes and the way things sound."

Junior Marco Mercer worked the lights. He said, "Getting the show ready is the real challenge. Putting on the show isn't that tough."

Sophomore Margaret Bryant was the stage manager. She helped keep everything organized and people happy. That job took a lot of skill!

"I made up my dance two hours before each show. I had a different one each night for variety."
-Alison Sedei

"Despite injuries it was fun to perform in front of the school. I got to know a lot of people."
- Liv Nordin

Stretching out. Senior Alison Sedei takes to the floor to get some rest after rehearsal. She choreographed her own dance ("SubCulture") in Act II.

Checking it out. Light technician Marco Mercer (junior) works on the lights in preparation for the show. He was responsible for forty-seven lights.

Reading the lyrics, junior Adriana Anderson rehearses with senior Bob Anderson on guitar. They performed "Move Over" by Janis Joplin in Act II.

Sounding good. Senior Greg Shannon, sound technician, adjusts the 1800 watt system used for the show. This was Greg's seventh year on Mr. John Ballou's Technical Crew.

Testing, testing. Freshman Marisabel Suarez of the Stage Crew checks out a microphone during rehearsal.

Tuning their guitars, junior Allen McDaniel and freshman Michael Wells prepare to rehearse "Deprivation," an Act II number.

Lead singer, junior Brian Sullivan sings Bob Marley's song "Captain Crainium & the Head Band." Sophomores Paul Bailey, Kathleen Brill, and Tamara Droujinsky accompanied him. (This was one of five songs performed by student bands.)

Going solo, junior Jesse Boyd sings "Deprivation." Mike Wells (freshman) and Allen McDaniel (junior) played guitar. *Below,* freshman Diana Dinerman dances to "The Lover in Me" by Sheena Easton. She choreographed the dance.

Real comedians. Juniors Reid Hecker and Keith Casner act out "The Argument Clinic" by M. Python. They "argued" about the nature of an argument.

Senior talent. Adam Kallio and James Hooper play guitars and sing two original songs by The Crux. Cory Russ ('89 graduate) and Allen Scully were members of their band.

Sophomore talent. Shawn Askin on guitar and Trevor Krainik on drums perform "Mystic Mardi Gras."

ACT I

Sign On ..... Shawn Askin

Mystic Mardi Gras ..... Shawn Askin, Trevor Kranick, Mark Narcon
Original Song Written by MMG

The MC ..... The Ensemble*

"The Lover in Me" ..... Diana Dinerman
Choreography by Ms. Dinerman
Song by Sheena Easton

Deprivation ... Shawn Askin, Jesse Boyd, Robin Bolt Mike Wells, Alan McDaniel
Written by Sacred Reich

"Cold Hearted Snake" ..... Liv Norton
Choreography by Ms. Norton
Song by Paula Abdul

Son of the MC ..... The Ensemble

Senior Slide Show
Compiled by Justin Black and Craig Sirkin
Accompanied by:

Callipygous Adriana Anderson, Bob Anderson, John Ballou, Alex Dolemans, Rosemary Ragusa, Rob Rosholt, Joe Izetta, Allen Scully
Written by Pink Floyd

The Arguement Clinic ..... Keith Casner, Reid Hecker
Written by M. Python

Captain Crainium & the Head Band . Brian Sullivan, Paul Bailey, John Genovese, Tamara Droujinsky, Justin Hruneni, Stephanie Jones, Allen Scully
Written by Bob Marley

Yet More MC ..... The Ensemble

The Crux ..... James Hooper, Adam Kallio, Cory Russ, Allen Scully
Two original songs written by the Crux

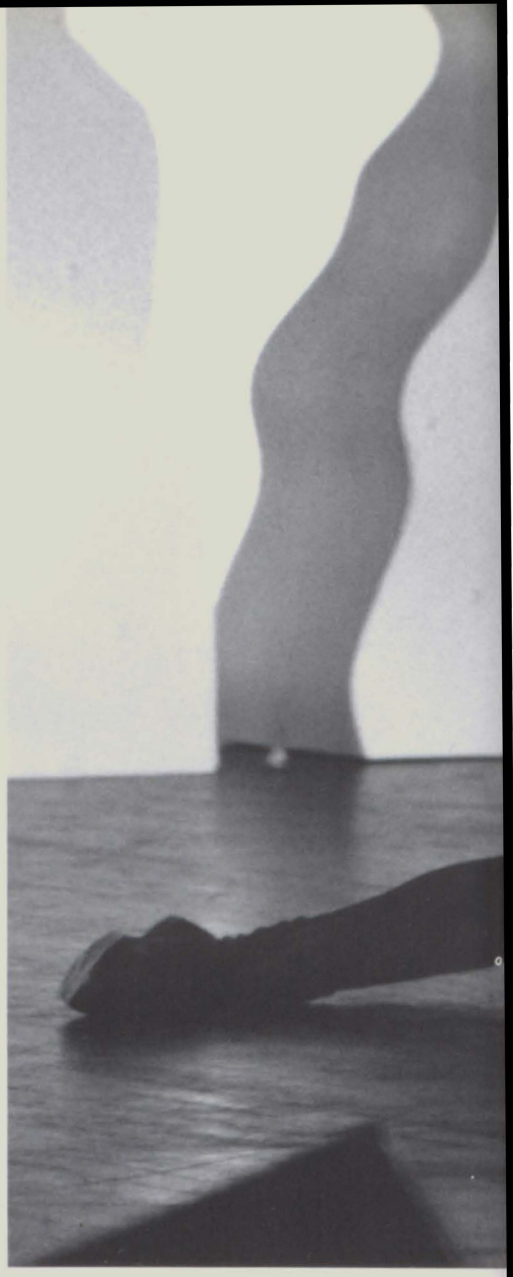
*The Ensemble: Keith Casner, Reid Hecker, Ellen Wright, Susan Phillips, Sara Brock, Lauren Kramer-Dover, Sarah Robinson, Rosemary Ragusa, Kate Chamberlin, Matt Kern.

An 8-Member Band. Bob Anderson (senior) sings solo during "Callipygous" by Pink Floyd. *From left;* senior Rosemary Ragusa, junior Adriana Anderson, Bob Anderson, Joey Iazetta ('89 graduate), Rob Rosholt and Allen Scully (seniors). Senior Alex Dolmans played keyboard and Mr. John Ballou played drums.

Slow and easy, senior Ellen Wright plays the piano for Rosemary Ragusa's solo, "Kissing a Fool."

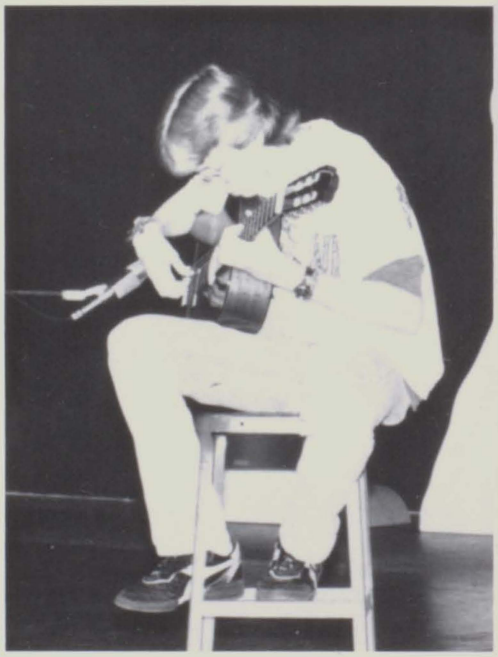
Getting a workout, junior Stephanie Jones dances to "Owner of a Lonely Heart" by Yes. Mr. John Ballou had remixed the song for her number.

Feeling confident, senior Rosemary Ragusa sings a solo, George Michael's "Kissing a Fool."

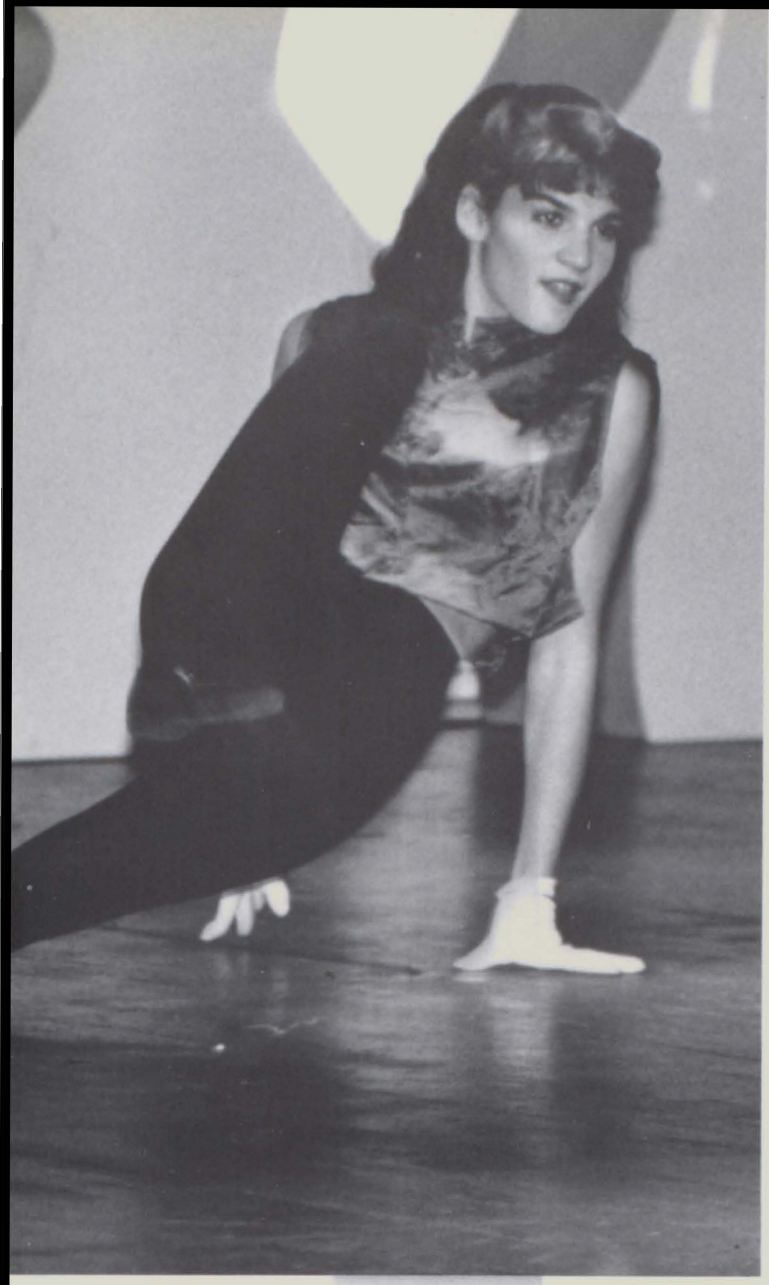


A final move. Senior Doedre Hoetmer and Ashley Lancaster (eighth grader) end their ballet duet. They danced to "Theme from Phantom of the Opera."

Real teamwork. The GM Jazz Band plays "Night Train." Alex Dolmans was the pianist. *Front Row:* David Douglass, Paul Dampier, Peter Oh, Joel Hardi. *Back Row:* Rob Karro, Jason Doolittle, Allan Schneider, Paul Whichard.



First time on stage. Senior Bob Anderson plays "Prelude No. 1" on the classical guitar.



ACT II

Mars, The Bringer of War ..... John Ballou, John Genovese
Written by Gustav Holst
Arrangement by Mr. Genovese

Night Train ..... GM Jazz Band*

Still More MC ..... The Ensemble

"Owner of a Lonely Heart" ..... Stephanie Jones
Song by Yes
Remixed by John Ballou

Secure Yourself ..... Diana Dinerman, Liv Norton
Written by the Indigo Girls
Guitar Arrangement by Eric Willis and Bob Anderson

"Sub Culture" ..... Alison Sedei
Song by New Order
Choreography by Ms. Sedei

"Prelude No. 1" ..... Bob Anderson
Written by Heitor Villa-Lobos

"Theme from Phantom of the Opera" . Dee Hoetmer, Ashley Lancaster
Choreography by Ms. Hoetmer

"All I Ask of You" ..... Lauren Kramer-Dover
Written by Andrew Lloyd Webber
Accompanied by John Genovese

"Kissing a Fool" ..... Rosemary Ragusa
Written by George Michael
Accompanied by John Ballou, Adam Kallio, Ellen Wright

The Outstanding Principals ..... The Ensemble

"Move Over" ..... Adrianna Anderson and Band
Written by Janis Joplin

The Final MC ..... The Ensemble

"Respect" ..... The Company
Written by Otis Redding

*GM Jazz Band: Paul Bailey, John Ballou, Paul Dampier, Alex Dolmans, Jason Doolittle, David Douglas, Joel Hardi, Robbie Karro, Peter Oh, Allan Schneider, Paul Witchard.

The grand finale. Female vocatlists sing "Respect" in the final number (with Bob Anderson on guitar). *From left:* Deidre Hoetmer, Kate Chamberlin, Catherine Bradley, Adriana Anderson, Ashley Lancaster, Diana Dinerman, Liv Nordin. The entire cast participated in this closing number, written by Otis Redding.

Raising the roof. Junior Variety Show finale participants join in during the last act. *From left:* Lauren Kramer-Dover, Moji Ojumu, Amie Camden (freshmen) and Sarah Robinson (junior). *In the corner,* an all-male cheering section of the audience enjoys the show.

Right, tallying up receipts. Seniors Heather Anderson and Barbara McNeill count Giant and Safeway register tapes as part of their office systems classwork.

A quick sale. Junior Jessica Menendez sells senior David Shealy a box of candy for $5.00. This was a fund raiser for girls' basketball.

Freshman partners. Stacey Mize and Chris Yates dance together at the Homecoming Dance held from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Saturday evening, October 20. The Senior Class sponsored this function, which cleared about $800.

Below, priceless goodies. Mr. Phil Lindsey buys some baked goods at the Naimum-sponsored bake sale held on Friday, October 19. Club members ran the sale. *From left:* Seniors Kunnareath Tauch and Pilar Viccellio, freshman Michael Betz, and junior Jane Brock.

Bearing flowers. Junior varsity cheerleaders Diana Dinerman and Samantha Petrich deliver orders of red and white carnations on Carnation Day.

Making The Bucks

How was a school like a business? It needed funds to pay for services and special needs. During the year raising money became almost as important as raising grades!

In fact, the agenda at the first few meetings of most organizations centered on fund raisers. All it took was a strong leader to organize a winner that brought in big bucks. Not an easy task, for sure.

"How about a bake sale on Friday? Everyone loves to feed a chocoholic who will pay a dollar for one brownie." A successful bake sale could clear thirty to fifty dollars. It just took a lot of cooperation so members would bring in goodies. Brownies, chocolate-chip cookies and Rice Krispie treats were sure things.

But you had to have fun while pulling off a successful fund raiser. Dances were popular ways to draw a crowd, have fun and make a profit. The Student Council's and Freshman Class' fall dances each cleared $400. The Junior Class Variety Show's profit for three performances was $1,500 (almost the cost of the band that played at the May 18 prom).

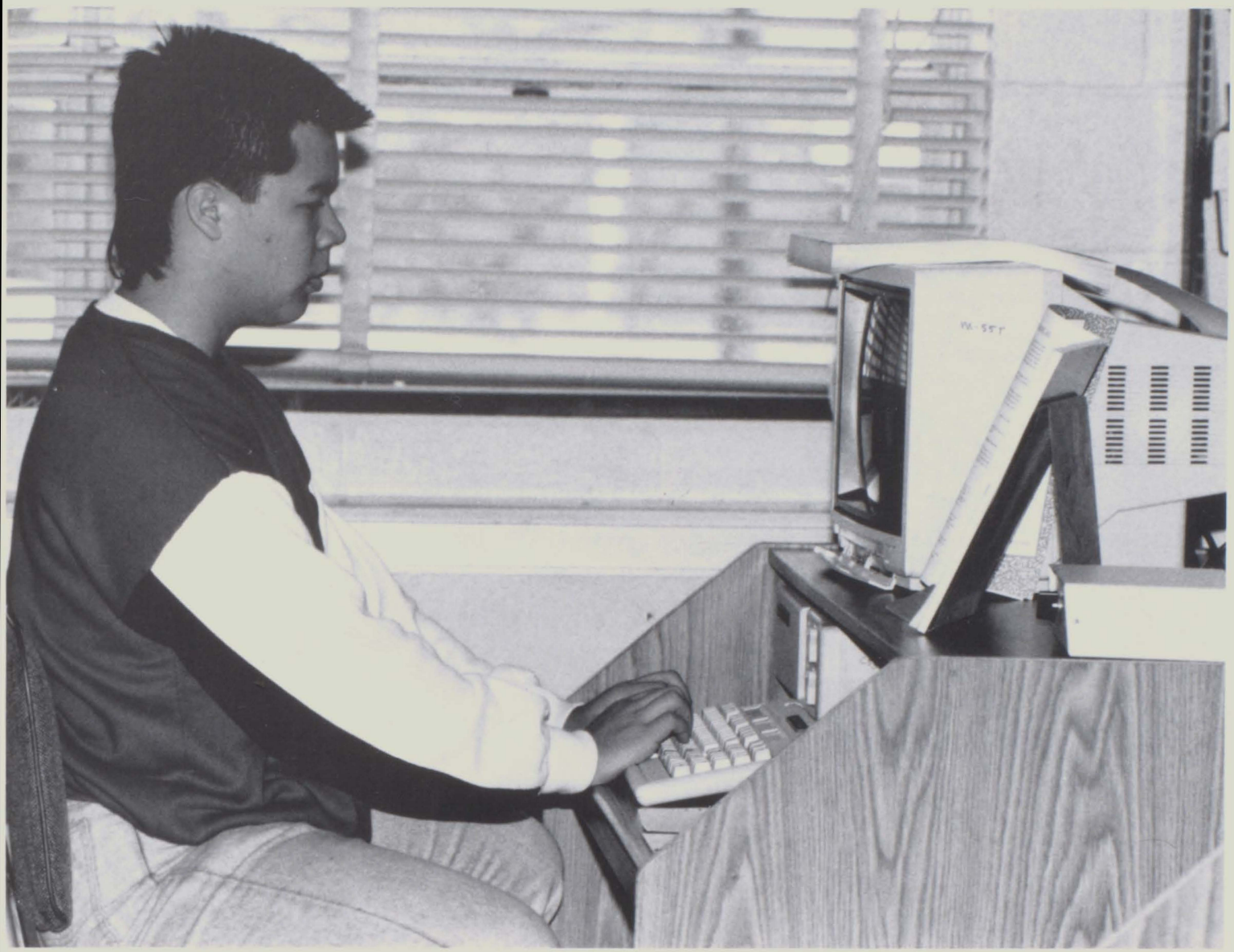
The schoolwide fund raiser of the year was saving Giant and Safeway receipts to order Apple and Macintosh computers, printers and software. By January sixty percent of the million dollar goal had been reached.

Tackling difficult assignments, juniors Marco Mercer *(right)* and Duong Thai *(below)* work in their advanced word processing class. Ms. Joyce Lowry was their teacher.

"We're very special here at George Mason. We get a good education, and there are a lot of computers!"
- Olivier Revel

A computer math teacher, Mr. Alan Graham checks over his students' work. Sophomores through seniors worked out problems on the computer.

In the corner juniors Scarlet Wynns and Natanya Barrow work on reports in the writing lab, which had twenty-five computers. *At right,* freshman Santos Aguilar practices basic keyboarding skills.



Serious seniors. Tracie Holcombe and Cheryl Chucoski complete classwork in Mr. Alan Graham's computer math class.

Computer Craze

Once there were none; then there were loads of them all over the place. And this was just the beginning of the computer craze. George Mason of the 1990's would eventually house computers throughout the building, all hooked up to the media center.

150 instructional computers were purchased between 1982 and 1986. Ms. Eileen Backofen, computer education coordinator, explained, "This was a grass roots operation. The use of computers just evolved naturally. We were all looking for instructional tools."

Computers were the answer. Sixth graders became proficient using keyboards. Many departments created courses that used or even depended on computers.

Some teachers and students got the "computer bug" worse than others. John Wu, a senior, enjoyed his IBH math course, which utilized computers. "They just fascinate me," he said.

Proof of the craze was the annual use of over 1500 disks for the last three years. Ms. Backofen added, "We're being buried under our own success."

Last year's Giant and Safeway receipts totalled $750,000, which allowed us to order five computers: three Apple II GS's, one MAC, and one IBM, as well as a printer, disk drive and software.

About Those Friends

"Lunch is the best part of my day because I talk to my friends," said junior Vicki Snowden.

Maybe the best part of your day was also lunch, TA, break or after school. Undoubtedly, your friends were there for you. They helped you survive the stress of a long school year.

Many graduating seniors had known each other for countless years. Sheryl Whitaker commented, "I stayed in Falls Church just so I could graduate with friends I have known since kindergarten."

A small student body meant having a lot of friends. Senior Ari Losman believed "you can get to know everybody at Mason." Well, maybe you weren't friends with everybody, but you had many opportunities to be a friend to students in all grades.

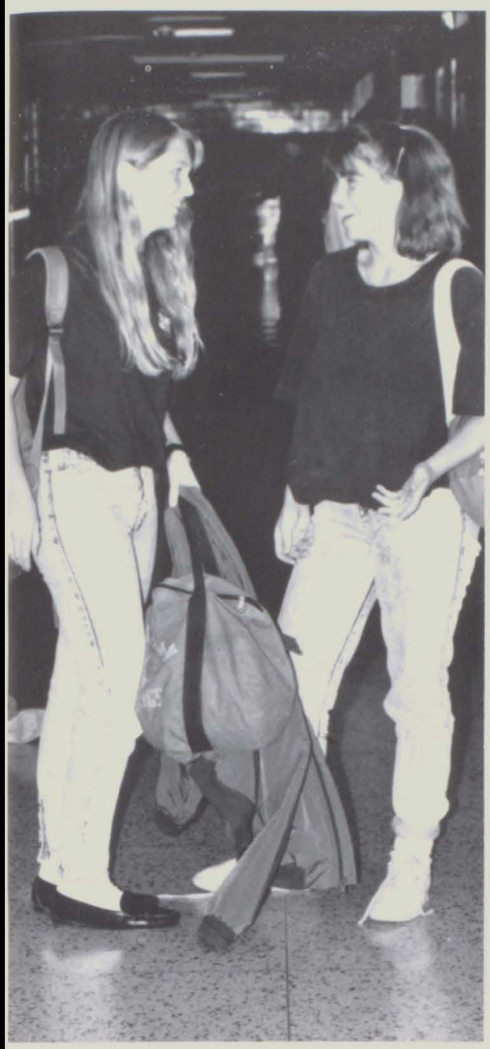
Freshman Don Beyer commented, "There are a lot of friends to be made here." You met them in your classes, on your school bus, in the dining hall, and in the activities you participated in. In fact, you often selected your classes and clubs or teams because of your friends.

Senior Molly Henneberg said, "Upperclassmen and lower classmen can be friends here." Mustangs were very friendly people.

At a pep rally, sophomore friends hang out together. *From left:* Justin Reich, Chris Worrell, Kathleen Brill and Catherine Bradley. *Below:* Liv Nordin and Elizabeth Sikkar chat after school.

"Friends are the most important aspect of my life."
- Jason Doolittle

"We make friends fast."
- Aaron Smith



Left, senior friends Allen Scully and Pilar Viccellio talk outside at Camp Overlook during the Student Council retreat. *Below: an open-door policy.* Nurse Sue Graves jokes around with friends Lance Guckenberger and Troy Austin.

Above, senior friends Lisa Menendez and Alison Sedei help each other in their night school class. *Left,* soccer players gather together at the homecoming pep rally.

Working together, Ms. Grace Rissetto's ESL students complete classwork on English skills. *Front Row:* Mariel Goyonaga and Angelica Fuentes. *Back Row:* Marjorie Anaya and Sandra Chaves.

Going solo. Freshman Lauren Kramer-Dover sings "All I Ask of You" in Act II of the Junior Class Variety Shower in November. (Lauren was also a member of The Ensemble that performed in both acts.)

All dressed up. The Girls' Ensemble sings at the Annual Winter Choral Concert in December. *From left:* Lauren Kramer-Dover, Rosemary Ragusa, Michelle Yoder, Bethany Morde, Kate Chamberlin, Leona Bienia, Ellen Wright, Sarah Letts, Lorraine Hahn, Renee Rehse. Ms. Tess Raynor (choral teacher) conducted, and Ms. Vanessa Kozmon (choral teacher) played the piano.

Freshman tunes. Band students Colman Burk, Paul Dampier and Forrest McGhee rehearse for the Annual Winter Band Concert held in December.

Below, senior varsity cheerleaders Medena Small and Liz Honesty dance at the Homecoming Dance.

Music: A Basic Need

You couldn't explain it, and your parents probably didn't understand it. But you knew you had to make music a big part of your life. You gave it a "10" in fact.

And what hit you the first day back from summer vacation after listening to your favorite songs at the beach? *The Student Handbook:*

"Walkmans, radios, tapedecks, or earphones are not permitted on the school grounds during the school day."

There were ways to satisfy your need for tunes. Students who played instruments signed up for sixth period band. It was work, but you still had fun performing in concerts and planning a spring trip.

Students who enjoyed belting out a song had plenty of opportunities through chorus, contract chorus and small ensembles.

The Junior Class Variety Show was a true outlet for Mustangs' musical talents, since the majority of acts was music based. And what about those dances?

Freshman John Schutte enjoyed Mr. John Ballou's art class. He said, "We listen to Beatles' selections while we draw." Anything was better than nothing!

Concentration. Senior Pat Thomas and freshman Bernaldo Hernandez play the snare and base drums during sixth-period high school band class.

On stage. Sophomore Paul Bailey plays the guitar during the Annual Winter Band Concert. He was a member of the Jazz Band, which was under the leadership of band teacher Ms. Sharon Still.

At left, freshman Meg Wiant dances with friends at the first dance of the school year on September 7.

Going For It

It was your choice. You could go for it all the way, the Mustang way, or you could make a feeble attempt to reach your goal. It was all up to you. Throughout the year you were faced with challenges in all areas of school life.

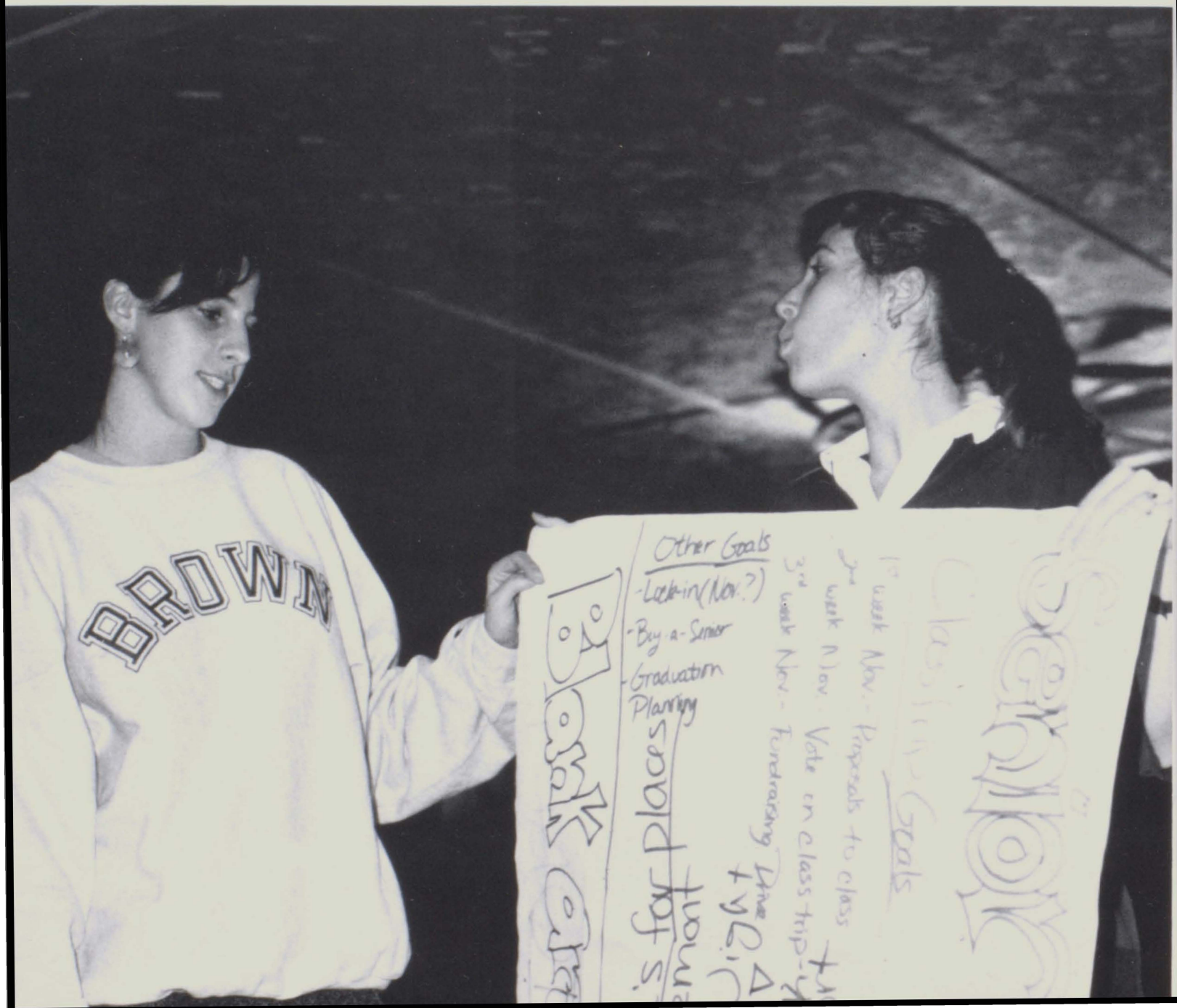
Lydia Doleman said, "My greatest challenge is getting good grades while still having *a life.*" That meant you didn't spend every evening and weekend doing homework! Certain times were especially stressful when you were ready to give up.

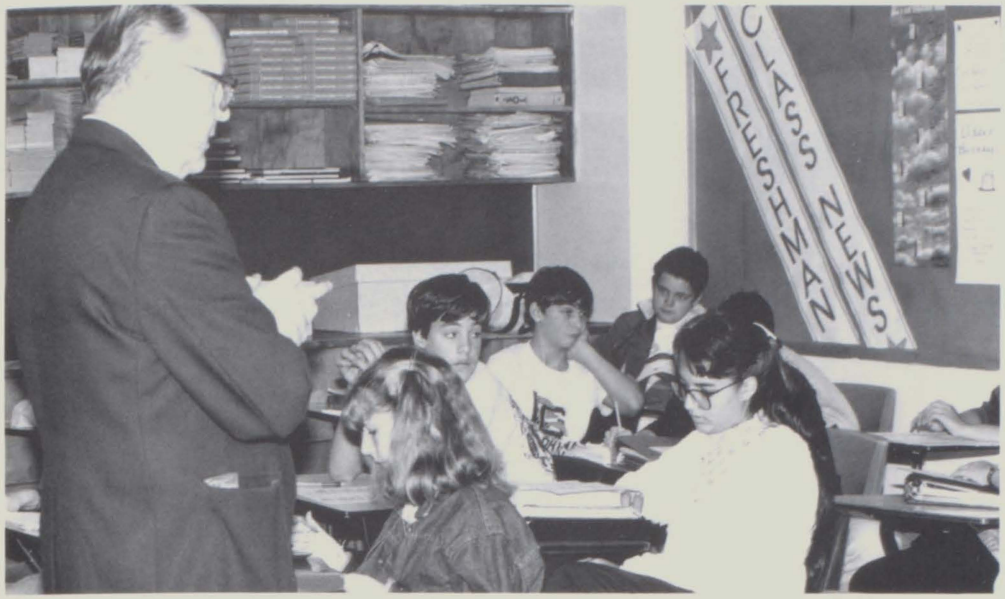
Once you were in high school you were faced with the challenge of graduating with the highest GPA possible. Freshman Sean Polzer said, "My greatest challenge is handling the difficult level of material." If you were in advanced and IB courses, each teacher described his course as "challenging." Just great!

For the athletic Mustangs each sport provided individual and team challenges. Diana Ibanez said, "I want to make good grades as well as go out for every sport." It was hard to do it all. You went to after-school and evening practices, then you were up until midnight doing homework.

Even clubs and group activities were challenging. Chris Yates, a freshman class officer said, "The greatest challenge is coming up with ideas for service projects." "Going for it" was hard work!

Meeting a deadline. Senior Andrew Hunt gets advice from Mr. Al Ramer of Jostens Publications, our *Mustang* representative. Andy designed the cover.





Left, serious business. Mr. John Moroney, guidance counselor, talks to Ms. Nancy Tucker's ninth grade English students about next year's schedules.

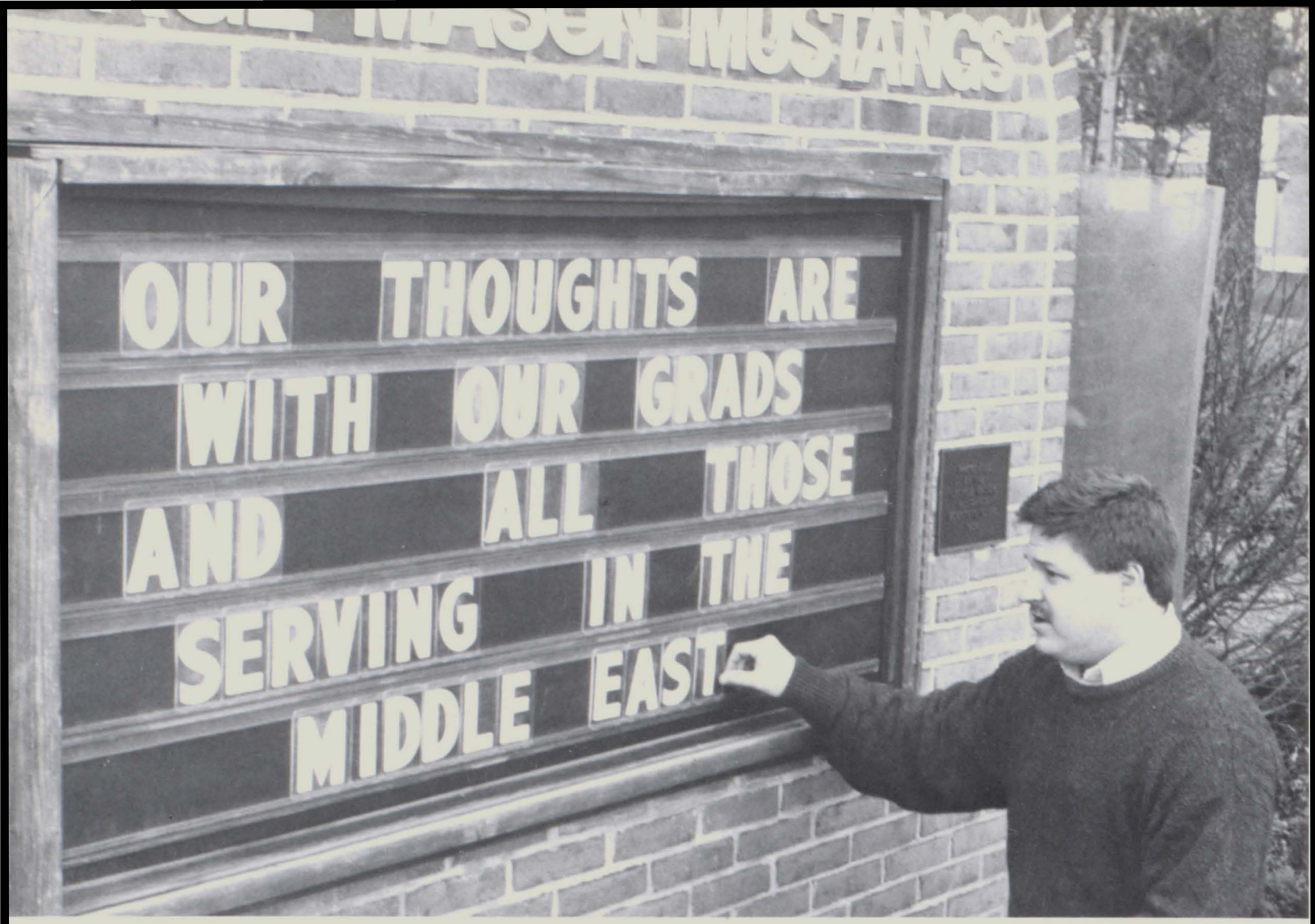
"My greatest challenge is to survive this year."
- Laura Chaves

"My greatest challenge is taking responsibility."
- Nate Martin

Above, varsity cheerleader Amanda Riedel prepares to start a cheer during the homecoming game. She received the Most Improved Trophy for cheerleading for fall sports.
Left, senior class leaders Sasha Day (president) and Christy Ploch (vice-president) go over goals at the Camp Overlook retreat on October 13-15.

"The greatest challenge is keeping up with all the sports, homework, and responsibilities at home."
- Diana Dinerman

Taking it seriously. Junior Joshua Kingsley and freshman Jason Cushman complete a pen-and-ink project in Mr. John Ballou's Art I class.



A timely message. Mr. David Boley, security guard, adds the last letter to the sign outside the school, visible to those going west on Route 7. *On the right,* seniors Zach Falter, Mitch Falter, and Christy Ploch attend a Student Council meeting that focused on students' concerns.

"Without follow-up action, the war will become a statistical, everyday event. Letters need to be written to troops. TA's should send care packages."
- Christy Ploch

"Turning eighteen to me means . . . I'll find myself right in the thick of things, forced to confront the issues at hand. I will consider myself responsible . . . for having informed and educated opinions."
- Zach Falter

"I think of the World Wars when everyone got involved in helping to 'bring the boys back home.' So many things have changed . . . Let's all try to be realistic and support our men and women overseas for their sake." - Alyssa Wilson

Special LASSO Edition

Volume XXXVIII Number 4 George Mason Jr.-Sr. High School, Falls Church, Virginia February 15, 1991

When We Went to War . . .

Jan. 16 Began Emotional Chronicle of Events

By Molly Henneberg

In retrospect, it seems strange. Strange that January 16 began just like any other day. This day, however, proved to be anything but normal. In fact, January 16, 1991 became a day that will live on in our minds for ever. Later that afternoon, the first allied missiles were fired and the Persian Gulf War began.

School began at 7:45 on January 17, *unlike* any other day. Students were filled with horror, anxiety and a forboding excitement about the beginning of the war. First period was interrupted by an assembly during which Dr. Thoms sought to address the previous day's impact on the students.

"This is a monumental and extraordinary time in the history of the world, certainly in the history of our lives, yours and mine. I asked you to come together this morning to recognize the significance of this day," said Thoms.

Thoms continued the assembly by outlining the measures that would take place in respect to the war. Lists of relatives, friends, and former graduates were to be compiled in TA's. Time would be allotted in classes for discussions. Televisions would run in the cafeteria and the library for those who wanted constant sources of information.

Although Dr. Thoms urged us to "go on with business as usual or as close to usual as we can," in the first few days war pervaded every aspect of our lives. Teachers and parents took time to discuss and debate the emotions and issues with which students were struggling. Televisions were perpetually tuned to the news in school as well as in homes. Everywhere, conversations were tainted with a somber cloud of confusion and apprehension.

Students were filled with a variety of emotions about the outbreak of war. "I was suprised when it actually began. I support the U.N. resolution against Iraq very stongly. Saddam Hussein is wrong," said freshman Chris Dietz.

"I was very upset. I support the troops but not President Bush. He initiated the fighting. He should have allowed more time for peaceful solutions to work," commented junior Emily Hall.

Our school community also took additional measures. Two Student Council meetings were called to examine how the school could best address the needs of the students. Counseling groups were set up for those who needed a means of emotional release. Finally, with the threat of terrorism and the omnipresence of the war protests, the school system canceled field trips into Washington.

As the days faded into weeks, the barrage of media hype continued to play on our rawest emotions. From the pride and tense confidence of the first days of bombing to the horrifying pictures of the prisoners of war, watching the news and reading the newspapers became an emotional roller coaster. Then, when the controversy over war protesters appeared in the news, additional confusion continued to plague the emotions of viewers.

"I think the media has gutted the airwaves with Hollywood-like fervor, and I resent it," said teacher Gail Meighan.

In addition to the emotional highs and lows of war, Masonites were impacted by the growing concern over the safety of loved ones in the war. Approximately 60 Masonites have relatives or close friends in the Gulf and at least eight former students are stationed there.

"This war makes me especially sad because my brother is over there," said junior Erin Stobo.

From an emotional viewpoint, students and faculty were forced to deal with a variety of feelings. From an educational viewpoint, they were challenged to learn about the Middle East. The Persian Gulf War did more than any history or geography lesson could to sear permanent lessons about the Middle East into our minds.

A sense of relevance and importance provoked students to increase their knowledge of the Middle East. Names such as Saddam Hussein, King Fahd, and King Hussein were dropped with ease. Places such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Kuwait were easily located on maps. Words such as SCUD and Patroit missiles were used frequently in conversations. The war forced us to study a part of the world which, in many cases, had been relatively unfamiliar.

At press time, the war was entering its fifth week. President Bush was signaling that the air war would continue for a while longer before the ground war begins. What will tomorrow bring? Will tomorrow begin as a normal day, as did January 16, and then undergo a major transformation? Masonites, like the rest of the country, were left in a state of uncertainty, destined to wait, to pray, to hope.

drawing by Deirdre Hoelmer

A new inductee. Senior Cindy Wilson taps the shoulder of senior Heather McGavin at the October 10 special ceremony for National Honor Society.

Unmistakably

Mustang People

"George Mason's a small, generally warm-and-fuzzy kind of place," said senior Aaron Spevacek, Student Council president. In other words, people had good vibes being part of the school community.

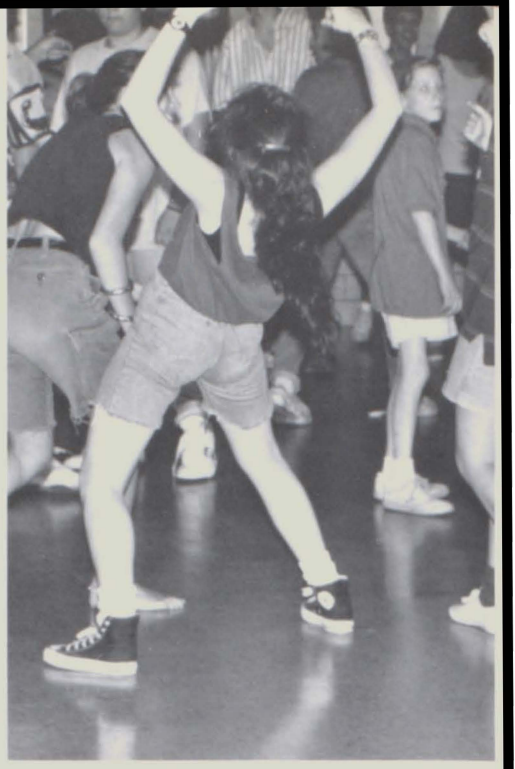
Freshman Lauren Kramer-Dover added, "Our school is personal and deals with each person as an individual."

Mustang people worked side-by-side. Junior Patty Trippett said, "Somebody here is always willing to help you with a problem."

And "somebody" included teachers, administrators, aides, paraprofessionals, the nurse, office staff, custodians and anyone who chose to be part of Mustang life. Parents and Falls Church citizens traditionally were members of committees that cared about Mustangs and the future of the school. Mustang people were a unique and caring community.

Freshman conversation. Diana Dinerman (JV cheerleader) and Chris Dietz (JV football player #24) talk during halftime at Homecoming. Below: junior Matt Kern in a comic role in the JV Show; Ms. Barbara Morris talking to an advanced math class; sophomore Christina Rosholt playing flute during the Annual Winter Band Concert on November 7.

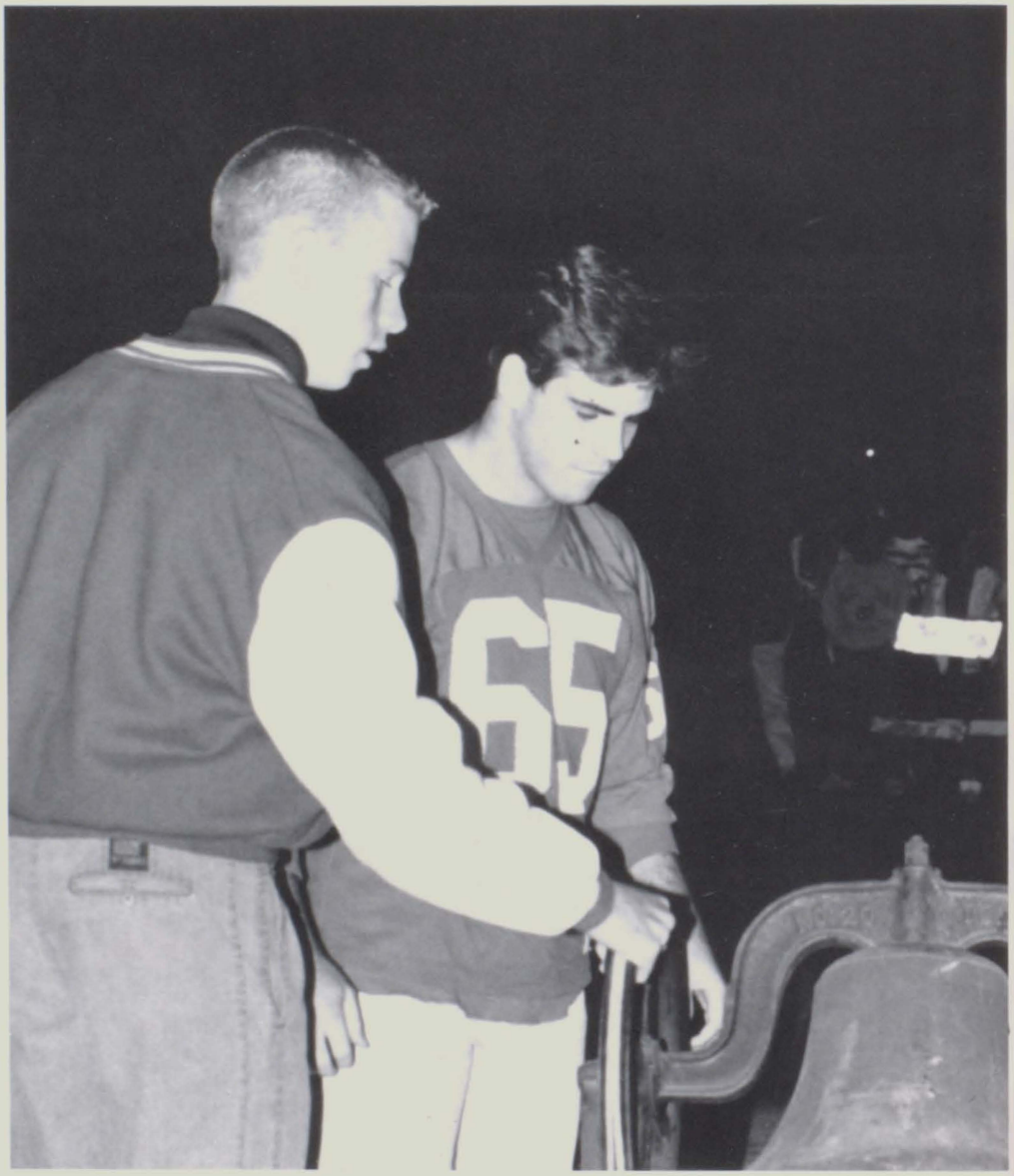
Right, feeling the beat, Alison Sedei dances at the Student Council-sponsored "First Dance" on Friday, September 7. *Below,* seniors cheer at the first pep rally of the school year on September 7.



"The teachers were cool and down to earth. If you did what they expected, you learned."
- Alison Sedei

"I'll never forget the stress and the all-nighters we had to pull."
- Jennifer Preston

"I have slept well since September. It seems I have mastered that practice."
- Andrew Hunt



Varsity football players Travis Lincoln (#1) and Zachary Falter (#65) ring the traditional bell at the outdoor homecoming pep rally on October 19.

Picture Day. Bob Anderson prepares to have his senior pictures taken by a Segall-Majestic representative on September 19, in the auditorium.

Looking Back And Lovin' It!

"I enjoyed hanging out in the senior lounge because I could leave my brain outside."
- Christy Ploch

"I'll remember most how much I looked forward to going to college."
- Josh Leachman

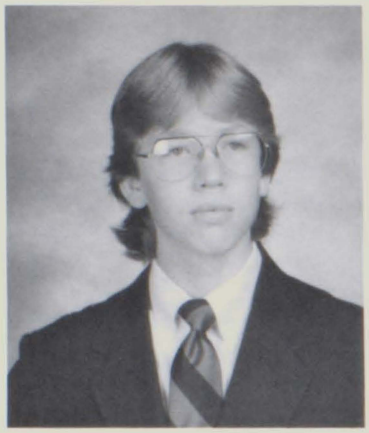
"Well, my grades were up, and social life was far better than during my junior year."
- Allen Scully

"Everyone got along since they knew each other well. It'll be sad to leave the pack."
- Oscar Cardenas

Preparing to congratulate the homecoming king, Dr. Joan Tannenbaum approaches John Pitfido during halftime ceremonies on Saturday, October 20.

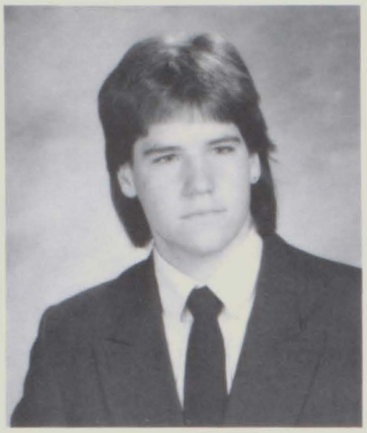
Above left, hangin' out together at a girls' soccer game. From left: Sheryl Whitaker, Susan Stitt and Justin Black with cameras, Craig Sirkin, and Mitch Falter.

Left, showing school spirit, Aaron Spevacek (S.C. president) and Heather McGavin work on signs.

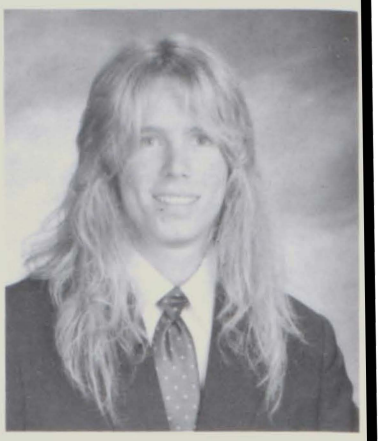


BOB ANDERSON
"de doo doo doo de da da da is all I want to say to you." - Sting

HEATHER K. ANDERSON
"There are 'friends' who pretend to be friends, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother." - Proverbs 18:24



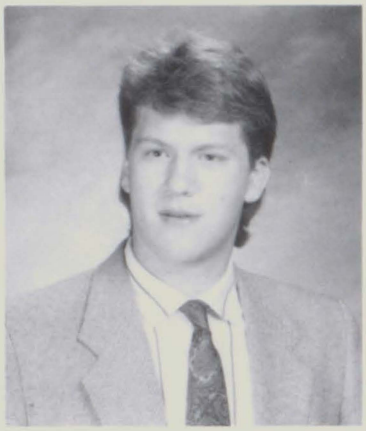
ANTHONY P. BALL
"Life is short, yet sweet." - Euripides



JOHN BARNETT
"Blame yourself for the ghosts in your past." - Poison

"I will always remember the crazy stuff my friends and I so sometimes."
- Blair White

"George Mason is a small community of people who have known each other since, well - forever!"
- Justin Black



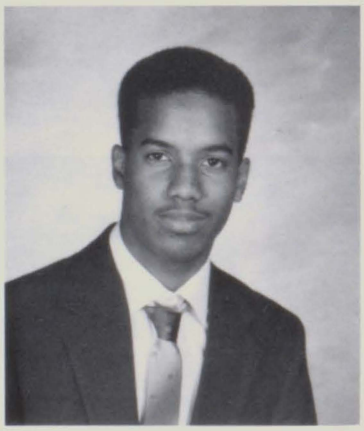
JUSTIN C. BLACK
"You must judge the world around you not as average gray, but as a continuous series of highlights and shadows." - Ansel Adams

DANIEL BROWN
"The purple robe and silver's shine more fit an actor's needs than mine." - Socrates

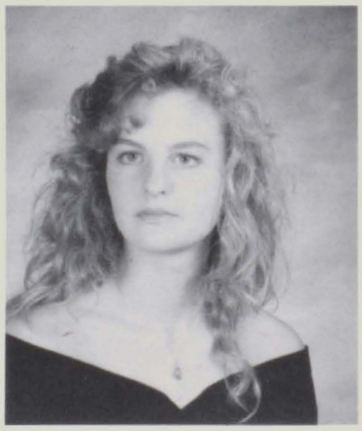
We were the seniors. Some of us had played together as kids. We knew each other so well, but on June 13 we had to say "goodbye" to our classmates.

We believed we would always remember the classes, teachers, and activities; however we were certain we would never forget the friendships we had made.

Where would we have been without our friends? They grew up with us and helped shape us. No, we would never forget them.

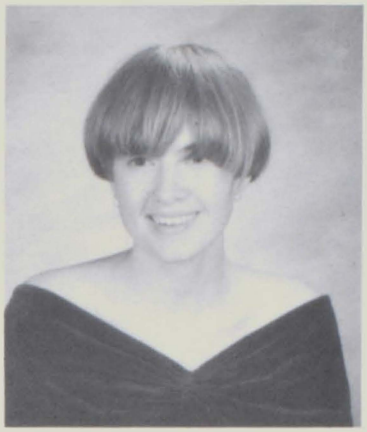


ROGET BRYAN
"Walk softly, but carry a big stick." - Teddy Roosevelt



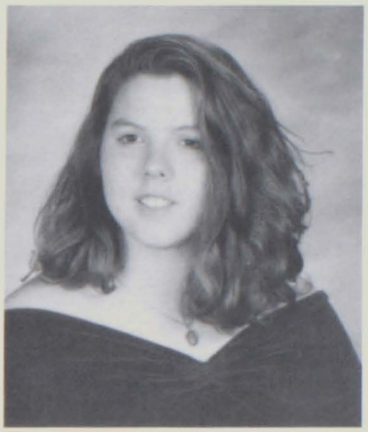
JERUSHA BURGESS
"My bounty is as boundless as the sea, My love as deep; the more I give to thee the more I have, for both are infinite." - Romeo and Juliet

ANDREW P. BURK
"He serves his party best who serves the country best." - Rutherford B. Hayes

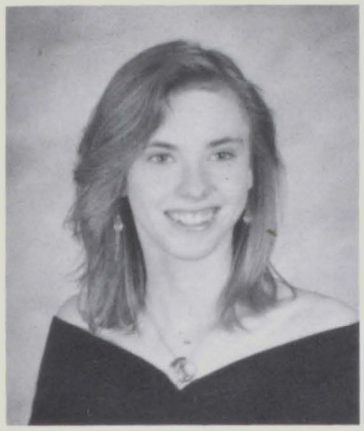


HANNAH BURKE
"But the world turns, and even legends change; and somewhere there is a border and sometime, perhaps, someone will decide to cross it . . . " - Robin McKinley

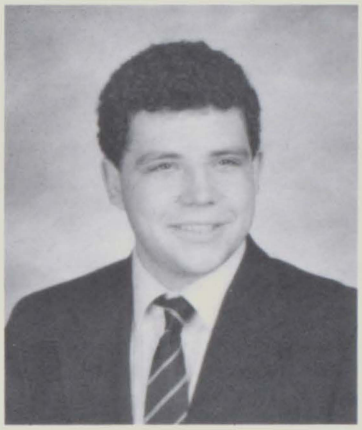
ELLEN A. CARLSON
"It is not the years in your life, but the life in your years that counts." - Adlai Stevenson



KATHRYN CHAMBERLIN
*"There are only two creatures of worth in this world - those with the commitment, and those who require the commitment of others." - **1776** (a musical)*



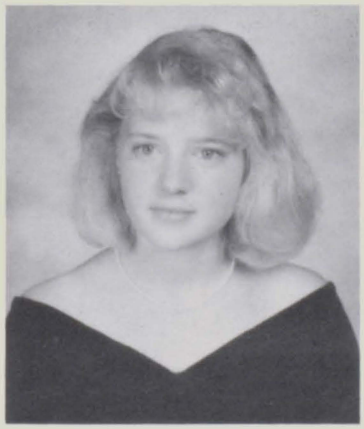
CHERYL CHUCOSKI
"It's finally over, and I'm out of here."



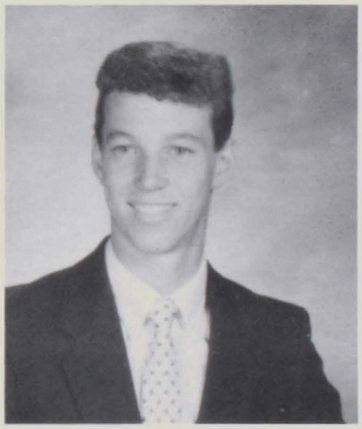
DAVID C. COOK
"There is no life of a man, faithfully recorded, but is a heroic poem of its sort, rhymed or unrhymed. - Carlyle

"I like best the friendships that have developed at George Mason."
- Debbie Cory

"George Mason is a good place to find honest and true friends. It's a cool school."
- Roget Bryan



DEBORAH CORY
"Courage is not simply one of the virtues, but the form of every virtue at the testing point." - C.S. Lewis

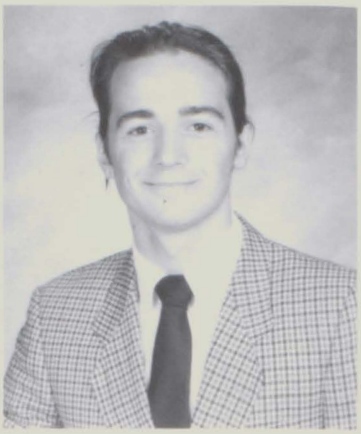


ANDREW LEE CRAIG
"I wanna be your backdoor man." - Led Zepplin

DANNY CRONIN
"Study as if you were to live forever. Live as if you were to die tomorrow." - Isidore of Seville

SASHA DAY
"Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." - Hebrews 11:1

THU T. DO
"The sweet converse of an innocent mind." - Keats



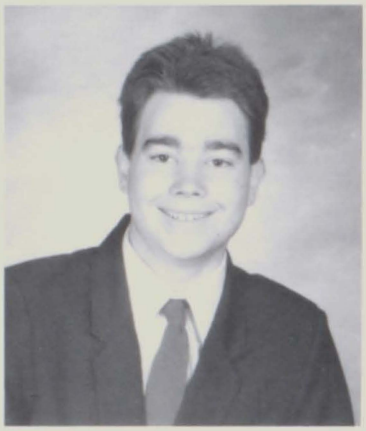
ALEX DOLMANS
"Het konijn leeft in een hol, behalve wanneer het thuis is, want dan is het vol." - Kamagurka

"I plan to go to college and be a geographer."

- Jason Doolittle

"Off to college I go, and where else from there nobody knows."

- Thu Do



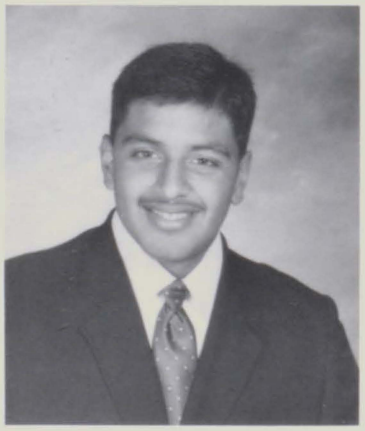
JASON DOOLITTLE
"War is hell, and peace is boring."

PAUL DUNN
"Hey, May, yesterday I was . . . Uh . . . Uh . . . Oh well, never mind. Burrrnnt!"

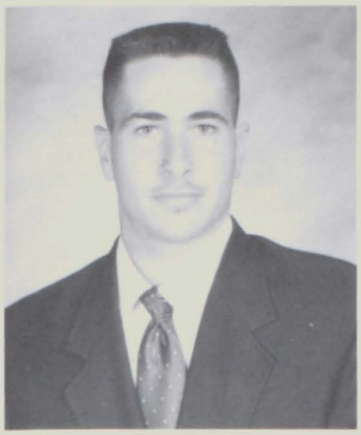
We were the seniors. We remembered being asked hundreds of times, "And what do you want to be when you grow up?" Suddenly we agreed that this question was not meaningless.

"Our future" - two simple words. Why did they seem so heavy to us? We were forced to give them considerable thought throughout the year. We were stressed out as we searched for answers. Eventually we all chose our own paths to follow.

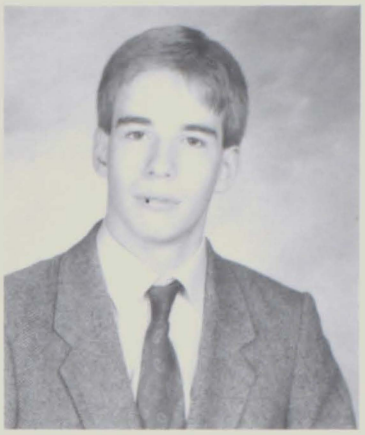
KAY E. EISTER
"The fool doth think he is wise, but the wise man knows himself to be a fool." - **As You Like It**



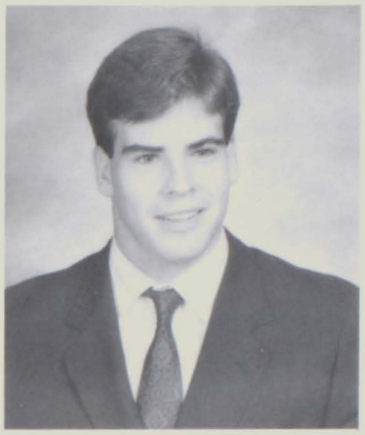
ROBERTO ESPINAL
"Life is to be fortified by many friendships. To love, and to be loved, is the greatest happiness of existence." - Sydney Smith



SEAN FAIR
"Nobody move; nobody gets hurt." - Yellowman



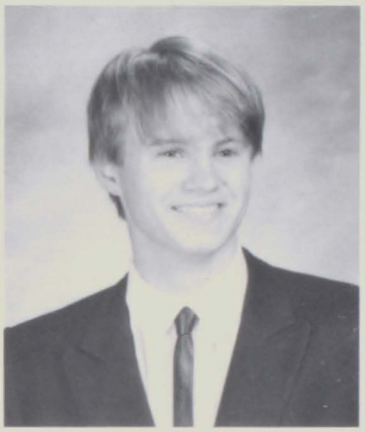
MITCHELL FALTER
"There's no name for what I'm going to be when I grow up." - **Amanda** *(Tom Robbins)*



ZACHARY FALTER
Future generations, on these highways that we've built. I hope they have a better understanding." - John Cougar Mellencamp

MATT FULWILER
"This is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning." - Winston Churchill

KARLA O. GOYONAGA
"Where love is great, the littlest doubts are fear; When little fears grow great, great love grows there." - **Hamlet**



SVEN GRONLIE
"Time is but the stream I go a fishin' in." - Thoreau "Det bodde en underlig graas-prengte en paa den ytterste noekne de." - Henrik Ibsen

"I am going to college and will have the time of my life."

- Zach Falter

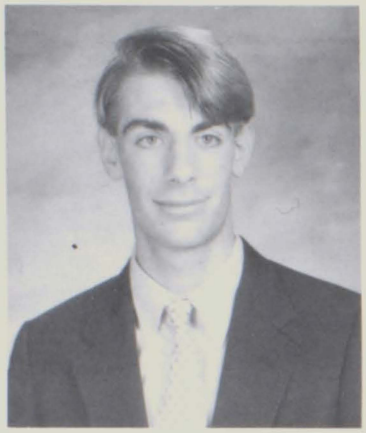
"I'm going to a cooking school to become a famous chef."

- Kay Eister

MONIQUE GURLEY
"I live off of dreams and chains. Have you ever been in love? Have you ever touched the soul of someone? Or did fear make you turn and run?"

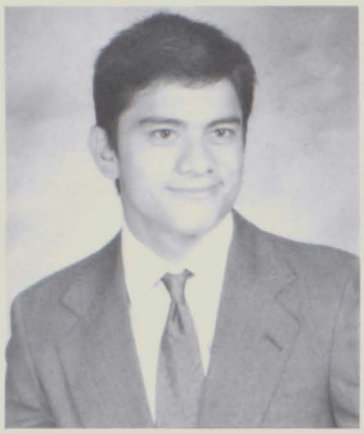
LORRAINE C. HAHN
"Unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality."

In uniform Karla Goyonaga completes homework for her ROTC class. ROTC, which met every day, designated Wednesday as "uniform day."



DALLAS SABO HEIL
"Many times I've Lied,
Many times I've Listened,
Many times I've Wondered,
How Much There is to Know . . . "
- Led Zepplin

MOLLY HENNEBERG
"For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength." - 1 Corinthians 1:25



JUAN HERNANDEZ
"See Ya!"

DEIDRE HOETMER
"Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Begin it now." - Goethe

"Participation in sports helped me develop responsibility."
- Liz Honesty

"Sports helped me meet different people and deal with disappointment."
- Josh Leachman

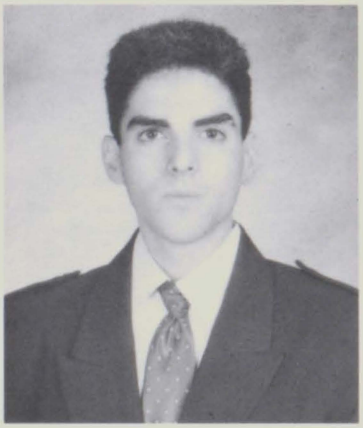
TRACIE L. HOLCOMBE
"Life begets life. Energy creates energy. It is by spending oneself that one becomes rich." - Sarah Bernhardt

ELIZABETH HONESTY
"I wuz doin' sumpin'"

We were the seniors. We were the ones who spent four years in classes, but we also realized the importance of releasing energy through sports. Some of us began our involvement in middle school.

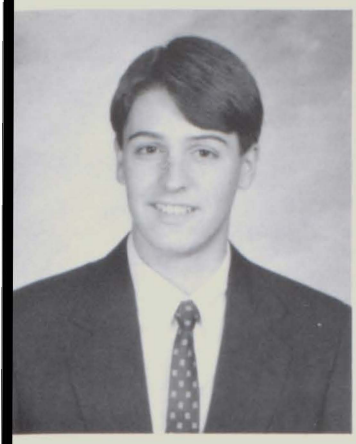
We benefited from excellent coaches who cared about us. We appreciated Mustang crowds cheering for us.

Practicing and playing with the team meant everything. We learned what being a good winner and loser truly meant.

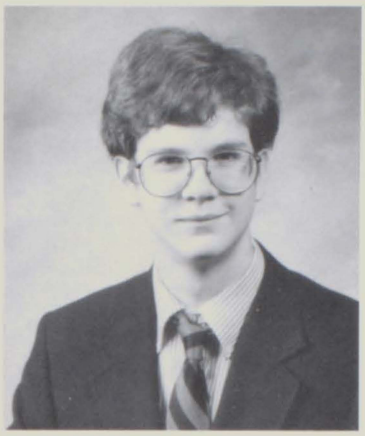


JAMES RAY HOOPER
"Not until we are lost do we begin to understand ourselves." - Henry David Thoreau

ANDEW HUNT
"Elephant, I've found a goody." "What?"



ADAM C. KALLIO
All the world's a stage, and the men nd women are mere players," - Shakeeare; "unless, of course, you're the irector."

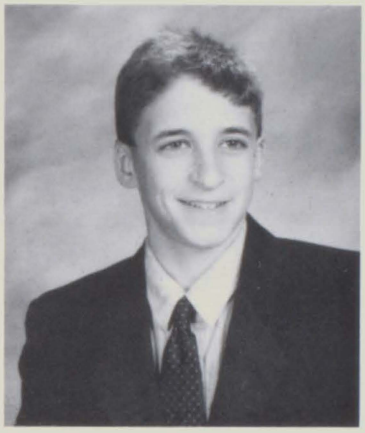


MICHAEL A. LAKE
"It was a dark and stormy night." - Snoopy

JOSH LEACHMAN
"A dream too tired to come true." - The Replacements

SARAH ANNE LETTS
"This bridge will only take you halfway there. The last few steps you'll have to take alone." - Shel Silverstein

TRAVIS LINCOLN
If somebody hits you and knocks you own, get right back up and hit 'em ack. Don't back down from anyhing." - Coach Lou Sorrentino



ARI LOSMAN
"God made the integers. All the rest is the work of man." - Leopold Kronecher

"Through sports I learned to be a team member."

- Ari Losman

"Ill remember the victories from football. They were outstanding."

- Travis Lincoln

REBECCA ANN MALAKOOTI
Mercy, peace, and love be yours in undance." - Jude 1:2

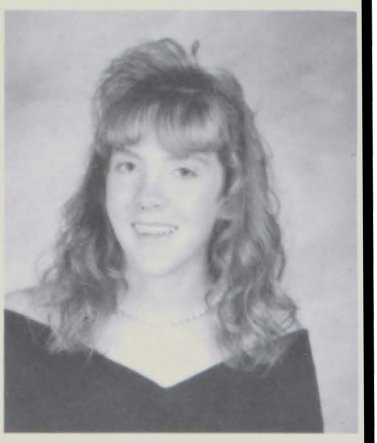
ELIZABETH M. MARTIN
"Friends - they are kind to each other's hopes. They cherish each other's dreams." - Henry David Thoreau

Senior Football Squad: Front Row: Rob Robsholt, Rick Martin, Zach Falter, Andrew Craig, Tu Wright. *Back Row:* Matt Fulwiler, David Sheely, Travis Lincoln, Roberto Espinal, John Pitfido, Sean Fair.

RICHARD LEIGH MARTIN
"Sad to see it end; frightened to leave. Blinded by the plethora of knowledge ahead."

HEATHER MCGAVIN
"However if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear the name." -1 Peter 4:16

LISA MENENDEZ
"For oft, when on my couch I lie in vacant or in pensive mood, they flash upon that inward eye which is the bliss of solitude." - W. Wordsworth



BETHANY JEANNE MORDE
"Everyone suffers from the pains of life . . . we live to learn to love . . . " - Ziggy Marley

"This year is good. I have finally gotten very serious about my classes while having a lot of fun."
- Bethany Morde

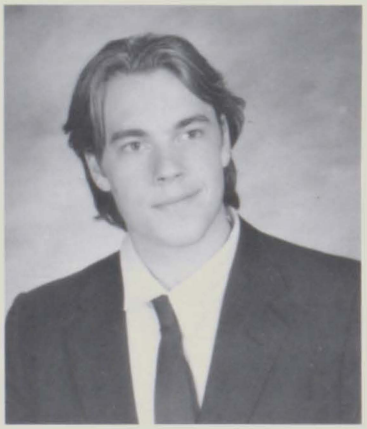
"It has been fun, but applying to colleges has been nerve wracking."
- Jennifer Preston

CAROLINA VERONICA NAUPARI
"The meaning of life: be happy, try not to hurt others, and hope you fall in love." - Justine Bateman

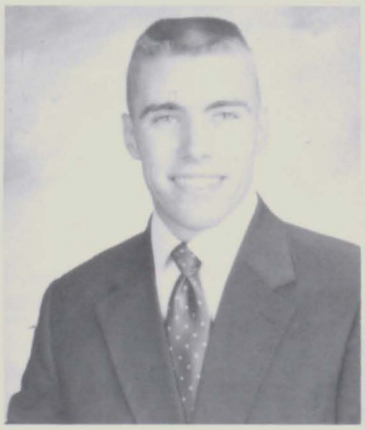
ALISON NEWLOVE
"Very little is needed to make a happy life. It is all within yourself, in your way of thinking." - Marcus Aurelius

We were the seniors. We were the ones who had survived four years of high school. Yes, we made it! Our diploma was more than a piece of paper; it represented every homework assignment we turned in, every test we took, and every project we completed.

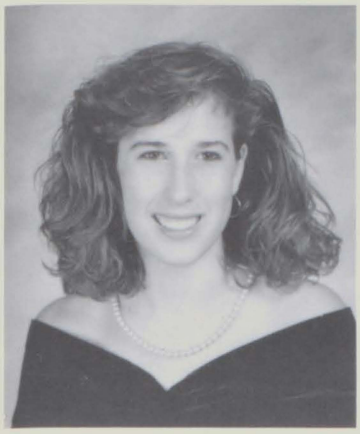
The Class of '91 accomplished a lot academically. We didn't avoid taking tough classes during our senior year because we wanted to continue learning and growing. We continued to excel.



JUHA T. PALVARVI
"One of these days you're going to say, 'I wish I had.' I'll say, 'I wish I hadn't.'"



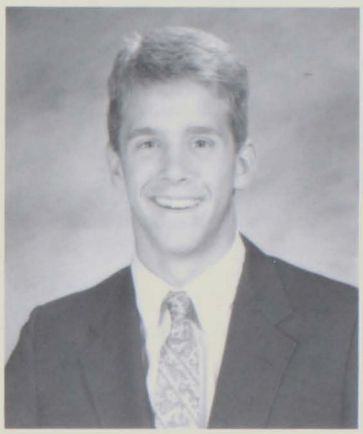
JOHN PITFIDO
"Those people who tell you not to take chances, They are all missing on what life's about." - Metallica



CHRISTINE PLOCH
"If you don't have a wild dream, you'll never try and you'll never get and you'll never achieve." - Celia Franca (ballet director)

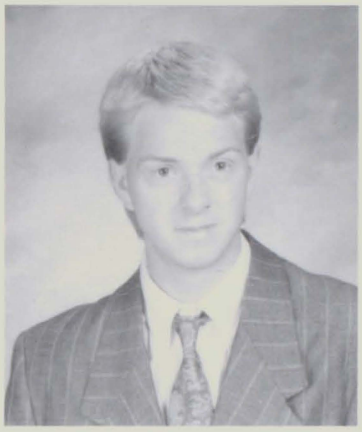
JENNIFER LEE PRESTON
"In the life of a young man or young woman, the most essential thing for happiness is the gift of friendship." - Harvey Cushings

ROSEMARY K. RAGUSA
"Good-bye my friends at G.M. I'll miss you! Remember, 'Life is what happens while you're making other plans.'" - John Lennon



ERIC GORDON REIMERS
"Tri-fector, baby. Tickle the twine, NBN nothin' but net. It's awesome with a capital A, baby. Dipsy-do-dunk-a-roo!" - Dick Vitale

ROB ROSHOLT
"You and I will have our ups and downs. Now it's whether or not we have the courage to bounce back. Always remember: 'Si Je Puis' (if I can).



ALLEN T. SCULLY
"I'm all shook down." - Paul Westerburg

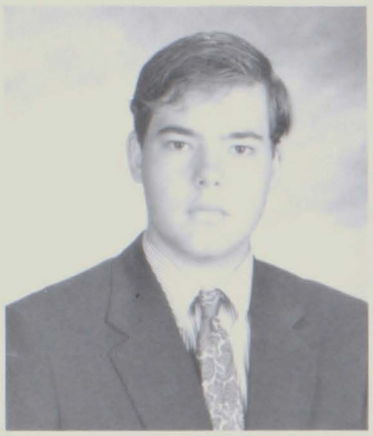
"Our school is special because of its size. It's like a free private school."
- Christy Ploch

"IB Biology is the hardest part of my day. I have to think too much!"
- Rob Rosholt

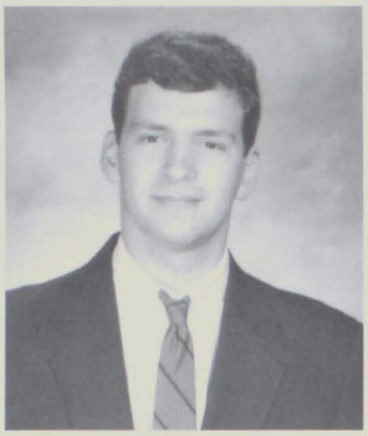
ALISON L. SEDEI
"That is what learning is. You suddenly understand something you've understood all your life, but in a new way." - Doris Lessing

GREG SHANNON
"Bake a pie, eat a pie."

A careful observer. IB Biology student Rob Rosholt examines jelly fish tentacles. The class collected and examined numerous Chesapeake Bay specimens on a September field trip.



DAVID B. SHEALY
"Freedom is the road seldom traveled by the multitude."

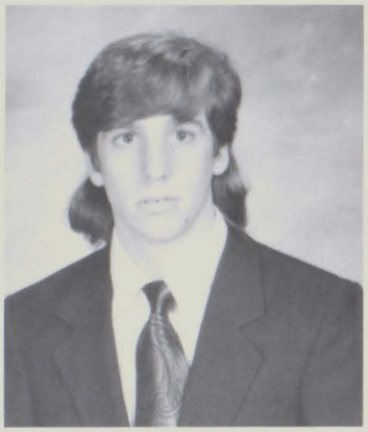


CRAIG SIRKIN
"Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight, and learn too late, they grieved it on its way. Do not go gentle into that good night." D. Thomas

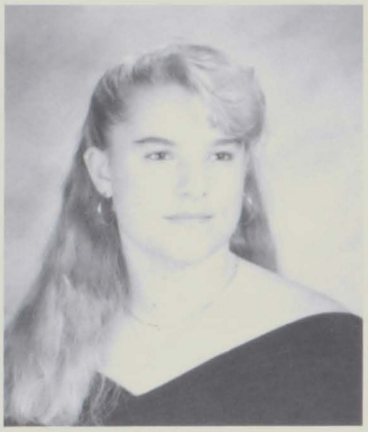
MEDENA E. SMALL
"All glory comes from daring to begin." - Anonymous

TAMARA JANINE SMITH
"Learning to love yourself is the greatest gift of all." - Whitney Houston "The Greatest Gift of All"

JOSE S. SORTO
"Life is not complex. We are complex. Life is simple, and the simple thing is the right thing." - Oscar Wilde



AARON JOSEPH SPEVACEK
"It is easier to judge without knowing than know without judging. The answer lies within . . . "



SUSAN ELIZABETH STITT
"Wisdom comes from experience, and experience comes from making mistakes." - Anonymous

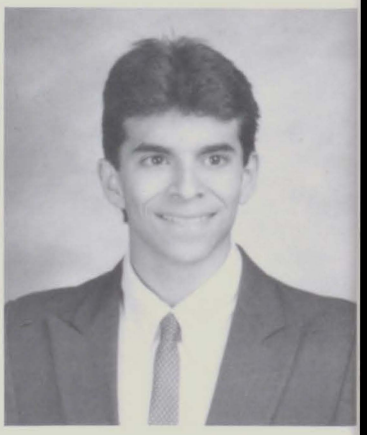
KUNNAREATH TAUCH
"Good and evil, reward and punishment, are the only motives to a rational creature: these are the spurs and reins." - John Locke

"I'm concerned about education and youth, in general."
- A. Spevacek

"I'm concerned about students not taking things importantly."
- T. Smith

TRI V. THAI
"The time may change, but true friendship will last forever."

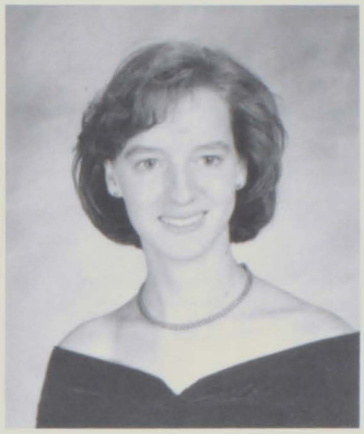
PILAR SUSAN VICCELLIO
"Destiny is not a matter of chance; it is a matter of choice . . . It is a thing to be achieved." - William J. Bryan



RUBENS VILLAMIZAR
"When you're not thinking about yourself a lot, you're usually happy." - Al Pacino

SHERYL MARIE WHITAKER
"What the head makes cloudy, The heart makes very clear." - Don Henley

BLAIRE ELIZABETH WHITE
"Be yourself. It's the one thing you can do better than anyone else."



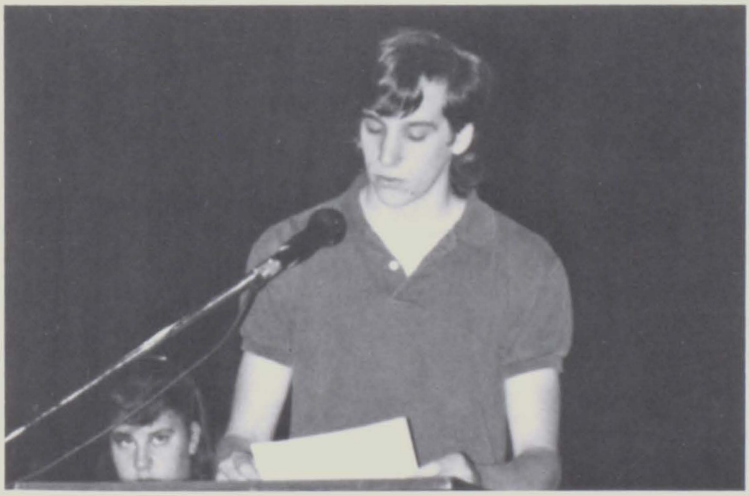
CINDY M. WILSON
"I think it's the end of progress if you stand still and think of what you've done in the past. I keep on." - Leslie Caron

ELLEN M. WRIGHT
"Of all imitators, dramatists are the most perverse, the most unconscionable, or the most unconscious, and have been so . . . " - Edgar Allen Poe

TU WRIGHT
"Coach, I swear I didn't hit him that hard."

JOHN WU
"Life is a nightmare of madmen and a dream of fools."

"For the interesting and inspiring thing about America, gentlemen, is that she asks nothing for herself except what she has a right to ask for humanity itself."
- Woodrow Wilson
(Speech, at the luncheon of the Mayor of New York, May 17, 1915.)



On the first day of school, Aaron Spevacek, Student Council President, welcomes back students and staff and inspires them to work together. (School began on Tuesday, September 4 with a general assembly in the auditorium)

On Our Minds

Concerns For the 1990's:

1. The nation and its decline
2. Pollution
3. Global warming
4. AIDS
5. The homeless
6. Environmental awareness
7. Human rights everywhere
8. The crumbling family structure
9. War with Iraq
10. Happiness
11. A future mate
12. Graduating from college

Right: Bob Anderson and Deidre Hoetmer
Below: Ari Losman and Christy Ploch

Above: Adam Kallio and Debbie Cory
Above Right: Andrew Hunt and Alison Sedei

Pilar Viccellio and Josh Leachman

Andrew Craig and Heather McGavin

Left: Lorraine Hahn and Paul Dunn

Below: Michael Lake and Sasha Day

Above: Eric Reimers and Thu Do

Right: Mitch Falter and Cindy Wilson

"I'll remember all the fun times I have had with my friends. And the bad times will stick out too."

- Sasha Day

In Recognition Of . . .

Best Dressed
Josh Leachman & Pilar Viccellio

Class Cuties
Adam Kallio & Debbie Cory

Most Ambitious
Michael Lake & Sasha Day

Most Artistic
Andrew Hunt & Alison Sedei

Most Athletic
Andrew Craig & Heather McGavin

Most Flirtatious
Paul Dunn & Lorraine Hahn

Most Likely To Become A Political Leader
Mitch Falter & Cindy Wilson

Most Likely To Succeed
Eric Reimers & Thu Do

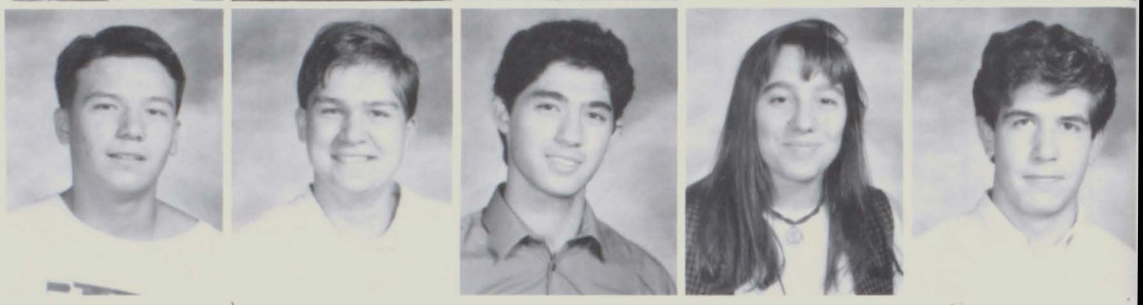
Most Talented
Bob Anderson & Deidre Hoetmer

Most Talkative
Ari Losman & Christy Ploch

Andriana Anderson
Laura Bain
Natanya Barrow
Efrain Benitez
Leona Bienia

John Blackwell
Cristin Brew
Jane Brock
Sherrell Brown
Blair Cameron

Andrew Carley
Keith Casner
Anthony Cincotta
Marie Connaughton
Chris Dasenbrook



"School spirit is togetherness of students and staff."
- Chris Madison

"What generates school spirit?

Football players!"
- Patty Trippett

Juniors Join In

Junioritis? There was no such contagious disease listed in the *Student Handbook.* In fact, the juniors exploded with energy and enthusiasm.

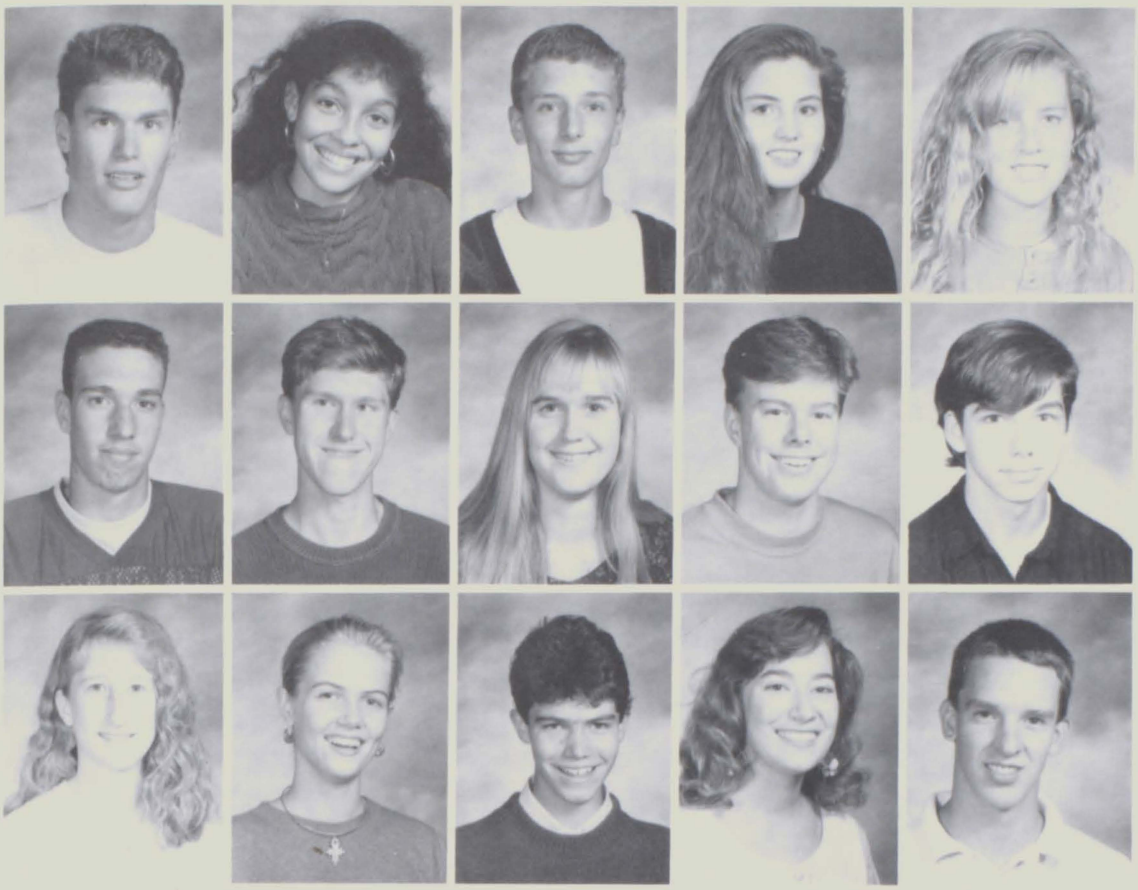
Vicki Snowden was a typical member of the Class of 1992. She said, "School spirit is simply showing how you support your school in a lot of different ways." Juniors were quick to join in. They scored high on the Mustang spirit index during the entire year.

Being part of the action - this was a goal for the junior class. They barely had the title of "juniors" when they had a car wash at school the end of June. The class officers had begun planning class-sponsored activities during the spring of their sophomore year.

Class President Stephanie Jones was the force behind the junior class movement. She said, "The best part of being the class president has been getting so many juniors involved in activities."

The weekend of November 29 proved a feather in the junior class' hat. They made $1,600 by organizing the traditional Junior Class Variety Show. Allen McDaniel said, "I really liked being a part of the JV Show. I enjoyed playing my guitar in it."

During the second quarter, Stacy Russ and Kate Gray (varsity cheerleaders), prepare to start cheer at the homecoming game on October 20.



John Daugherty
Stacy Dewalt
Jonathan Dietz
Maggie Donegan
Suzanne Eggleton

Eric Fellman
Wayne Ferrebee
Kate Fletcher
David Garrison
John Genevese

Katie Gray
Marte Gronlie
Samuel Joseph Gross
Emily Hall
Robert Hartman

Showing school spirit, Jessica Menendez and Peter Murchie prepare signs to hang in the juniors' hallway for the hall decorating contest. The contest was on October 16.

Reid Hecker
Jorge Hernandez
Travis Herndon
Jennifer Hoffman
Christion Iraca

Adam Jarrett
Stephanie Jones
Julie Kanzler
Lori Keenan
David Kelley

Matt Kern
Joshua Kingsley
Darren Lomis
Christopher Madison
Allen McDaniel

Patricia Membrano
Jessica Menendez

Deepa Menon
Peter Murchie

"Participating in sports has helped give me a good background. I also have met a lot of new friends."
- Mike Noyes

Before the game, Stephanie Jones discusses strategy with Assistant Coach Karen Amacher. Stephanie played center fullback on the Girls' Varsity Soccer Team for two years.

A Perfect Pastime

3:30 p.m. meant "TIME FOR SPORTS" for over half the junior class. These juniors didn't race home to watch the soaps or hurry to 7-11 for a Big Gulp. Instead, they warmed up, put on a uniform, and headed for practice or a game. And they did it for personal reasons.

Joe Wilson, a J.V. soccer player, said, "I can budget my time after school better. I have something to do besides go straight home." Juniors seemed to make better use of their free time because they didn't have much of it.

They enthusiastically joined fall through spring sports, often just to release energy. Peter Murchie, a varsity basketball player, said, "Sports keep me in shape. They're also fun." "Fun" was an important concept for team sports. Juniors accepted responsibility and learned discipline, but they had a lot of fun along the way.

"Sports helped me meet many new friends," said David Garrison. By being on the same team, juniors often became best friends.

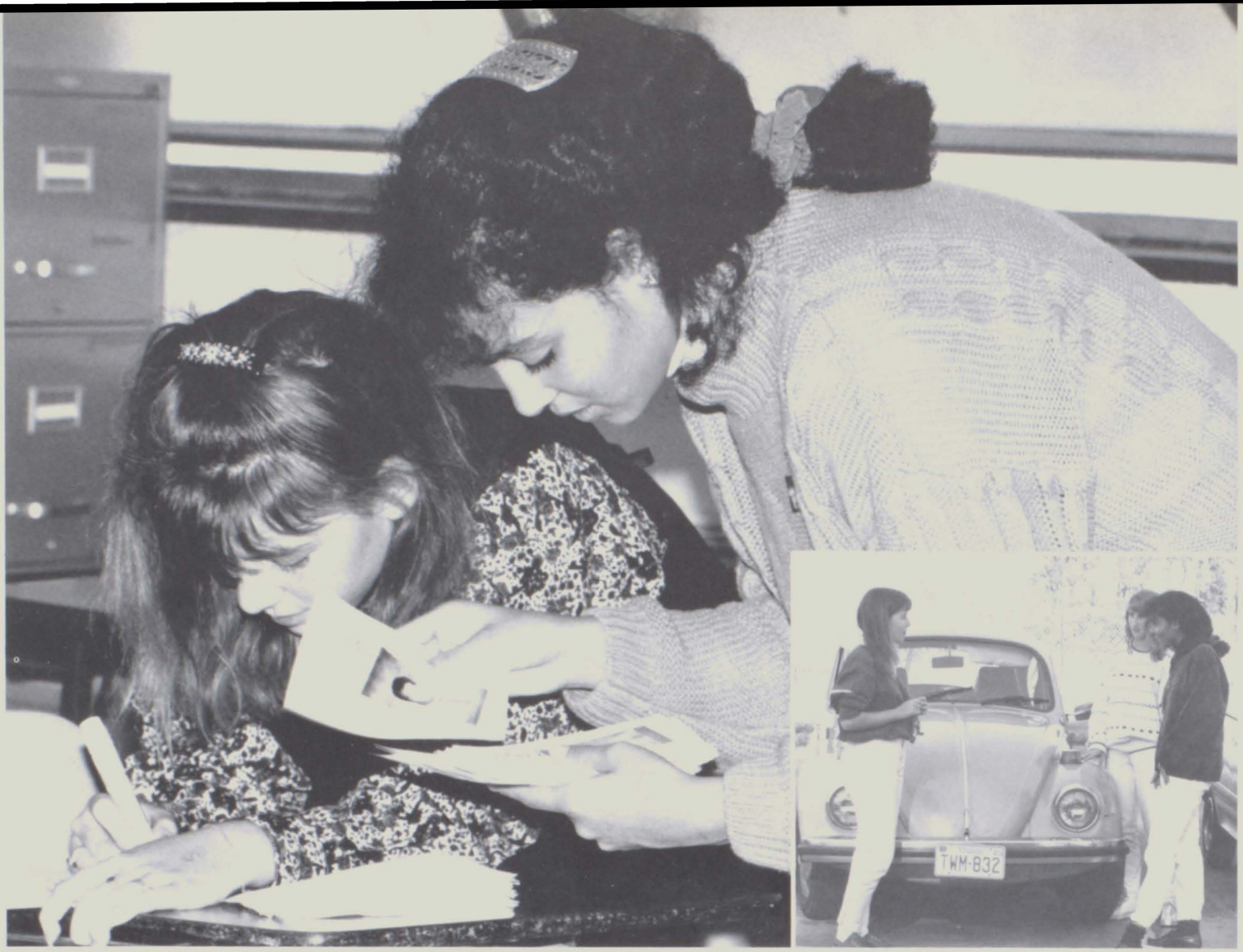
Recognition was also a reward. Sarah Robinson (Soccer) and Chris Madison (Cross Country) received "Most Improved Trophies" on December 3.

"Participation in sports has given me a sense of responsibility and leadership."
- Andrew Swift

"I love basketball. This year's team was the best it has been in years."
- Erin Stobo

Moving fast, Erin Stobo (#30) breaks a press in the October 30 game against Page County. Erin was a guard on the Girls' Varsity Basketball Team.

Running with the ball, Mike Noyes (#32) dodges a tackle in the September 22 game against Sidwell Friend. Mike was a tight end on the Varsity Football team for two years. (Mason won, 25-6.)



Friends Forever

Together since diapers! (What a thought for juniors.) A high percentage of the Class of '92 had truly grown up together. Some had been in the same classes since nursery school, and that meant being friends for twelve, thirteen or even fourteen years!

Norma Henriquez said, "I think it has been great being together since we were young. I know my friends so well."

Long-term friendships were often the best ones. There were no surprises; these friends were always there to offer support.

"Without my best friends, these high school years would have been horrible," said Erin Stobo. Best friends celebrated each other's victories, but they were there during the rough times also.

Darren Lomis understood the value of friends: "I'll remember my friends the most about high school. They have kept me sane enough to make it through." Who could argue with him? Juniors made it through three years of tough stuff because their friends were right there to suffer along with them.

New students often had adjustment problems to deal with since they knew no one, but Jonathan Dietz breezed through the year: "I was a new student this year. The students were really nice to me!" Mason was a friendly place!

Riding in style, Adam Jarrett and Christine Walsh represent the junior class on the Homecoming Court. Mr. John Kalepp is at the wheel.

Identifying pictures, Mustang staff members Jennifer Hoffman and Stacy Dewalt work on the first deadline. *After school,* Jennifer prepares to give Stacy and Katey Gray a ride home in her Bug.

Showing school spirit, junior boys cheer up in the balcony at a girls' varsity basketball game. *From left:* Chris Madison, Marquis Tinner, Peter Murchie, Keith Casner, Bill Singletary.

"It's going to be very hard to say 'good-bye' to my friends."
- David Kelley

"It's helpful being together for so many years. You don't have to meet so many new people."
- Blair Cameron

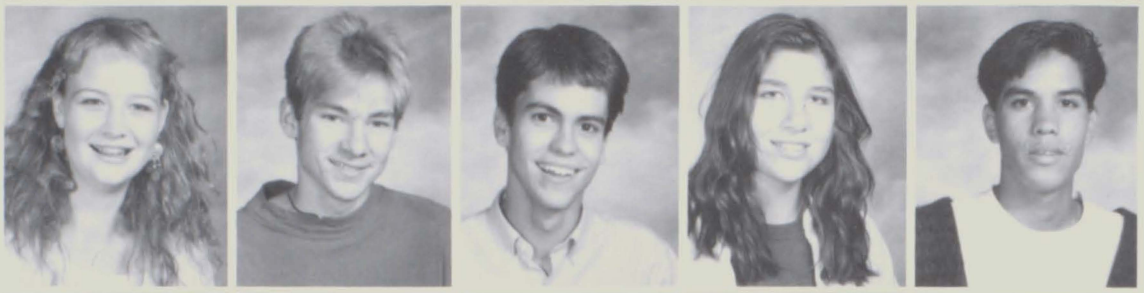
Feeling good, Andrew Swift (#33) and Mike Noyes (#32) congratulate each other after winning the homecoming game against Stonewall Jackson on October 20. The final score was 23-0.

A quiet moment. Chris Madison and Laura Bain relax before taking the PSAT in Room 180 on October 23.

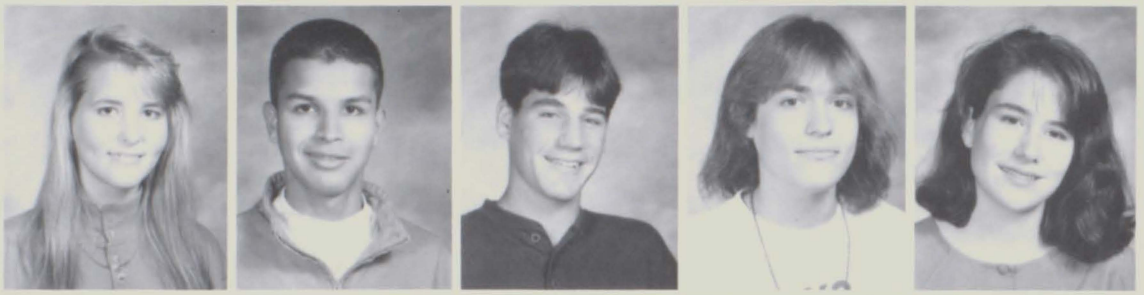
Read all about it! Proud of their final product, Mrs. Gail Meghan's 5BC American Literature students read the colonial newspaper they published. *From left:* Chris Iraca, Adam Stoffel, Blair Cameron, Darren Lomis.

Megan Noyes
Michael Noyes
Afolabi Ojumu
Julie Perez
Rachel Phelps

Tallison Rausch
Dean Rice
Jason Robertson
Sarah Robinson
John Rodriguez



Stacy Russ
Mario Salguero
Daniel Salsbury
Nick Simopoulos
Brigdet Singletary

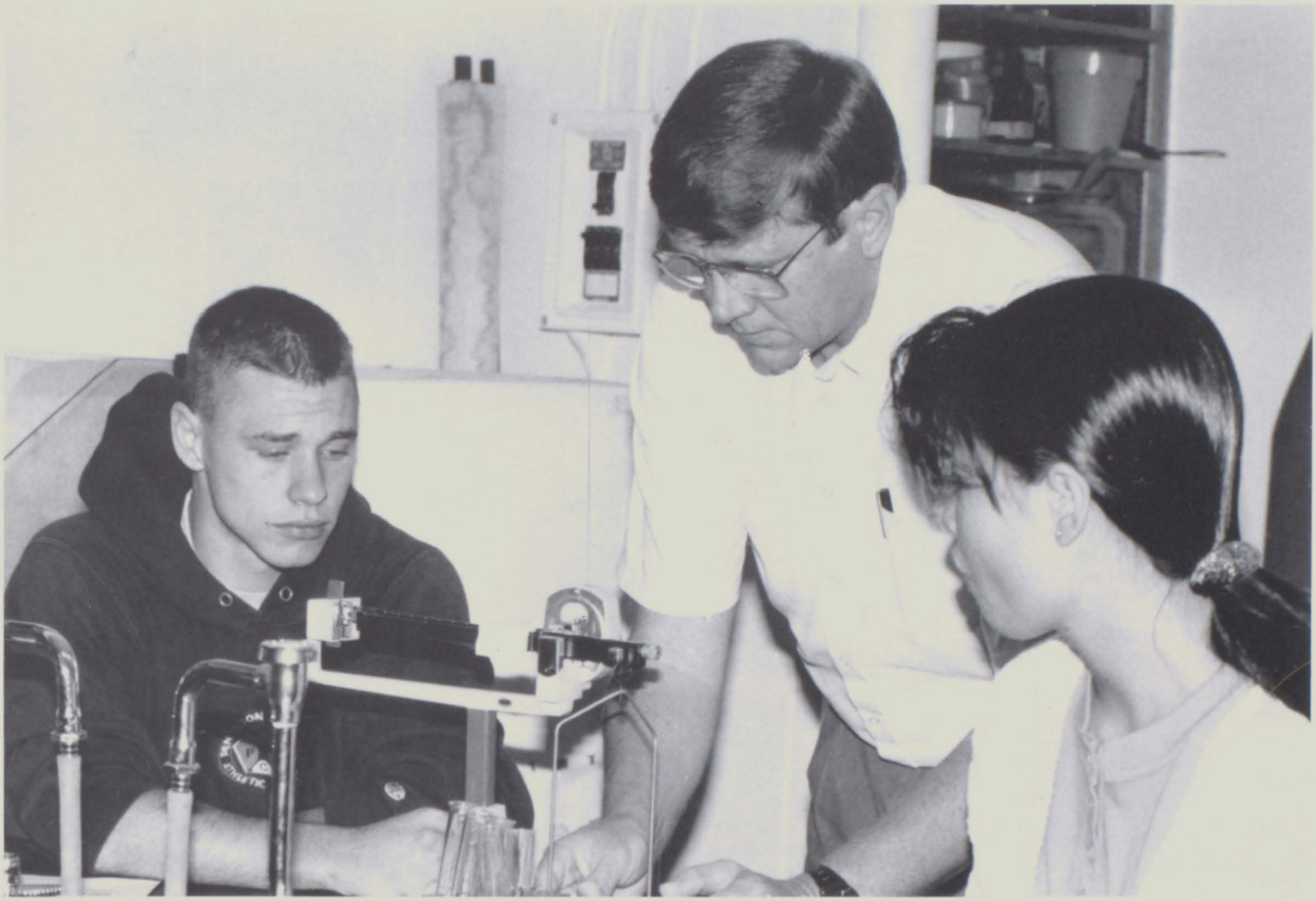


William Singletary
Vicki Snowden
Erin Stobo
Adam Stoffel
Cristina Suarez-Torres

Brian Sullivan
Andrew Swift
Michael Tarr
Duong Thai
Pat Thomas

Marquis Tinner
Patty Trippett
Christine Walsh
Joseph Wilson
John Yates

Lab work. Mr. Al Krueger (Biology I teacher) assists junior Andrew Swift and sophomore Anne-marie Wilson measure changes in potato cores.



Lighting the symbolic candles, Matt Kern becomes a National Honor Society inductee. Eight juniors received this honor on October 10.

Falling Into Place

"My junior year is great! I have the classes I want and need, and the teachers are cool too," said Darren Lomis.

By the time students reached their junior year, everything just seemed to fall into place. Freshman and sophomore insecurity and anxiety were forgotten, replaced by junior confidence and respect.

Julie Perez described her year this way: "It's fine. I have nice teachers and classes, and I have good grades!"

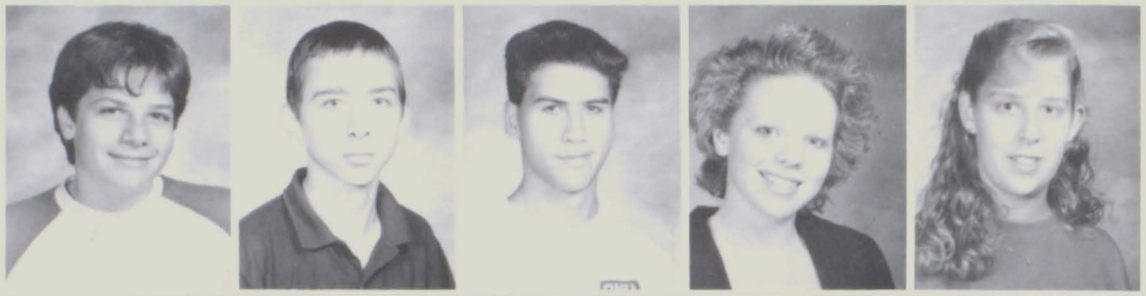
Juniors could finally enter the sacred senior lounge next to the dining hall. For two years they envied how juniors and seniors hung out there while listening to music and talking. It finally became their chance to be VIP's.

There were certain privileges that went along with being juniors. Since they signed up for higher level academic courses, they were rewarded with open study and early dismissal. Pat Thomas, who had open study, said, "My year is going pretty well, but I need to put more time into my studies. During open study I can chill."

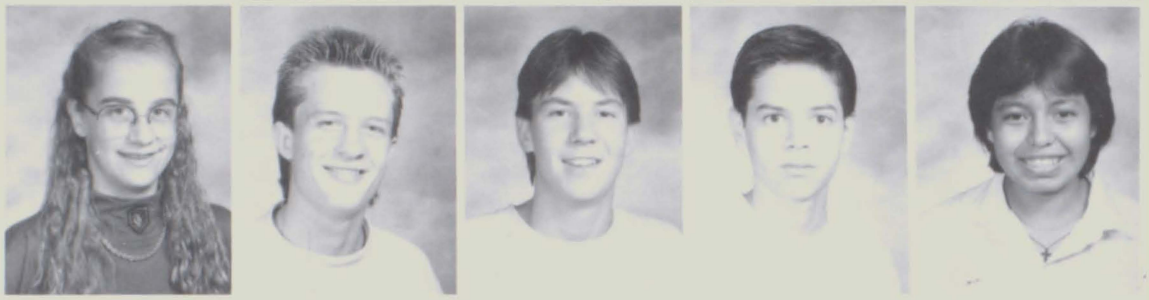
June of '92 was a realistic date for graduation, a ticket to freedom. After three years of high school classes, Tallison Rausch said, "My junior year is going down. I'm ready to leave."

Enio Aquilar
Jeff Anderson
Shawn Askin
Troy Austin
Paul Bailey

Scott Barker
Robin Boldt
Thomas Brown
Cathy Bradley
Kathleen Brill



Margaret Bryant
Jesse Burgess
Deniz Callahan
James Carson
Sandra Chevaz



"We have a good sports program because it allows everyone to be on a sport of his choice. You don't have to worry a lot."
- Katherine Temple

"I like the sports program because we get to travel a lot. It's fun!"
- Enio Aguilar

Supportive Sophomores

"Mason football rocks!" shouted Scott Barker. These three simple words set the tone for the entire sports season. Every sport "rocked" during the year, and sophomores were rockin' right along with everyone else.

Having survived their freshman year, sophomores felt positive about their second year with the sports program. Janna Lukomski, a cheerleader, said, "We offer a lot of sports which is good." Luis Ventura, a soccer player, gave it "two thumbs up," and Jeff Anderson called it "a standard of excellence."

Troy Austin, a second year football player, claimed that the football team was what he liked best about school. "It helps me get rid of my anger." Sports involvement allowed students to release tension and get rid of that dreaded "S" word: stress.

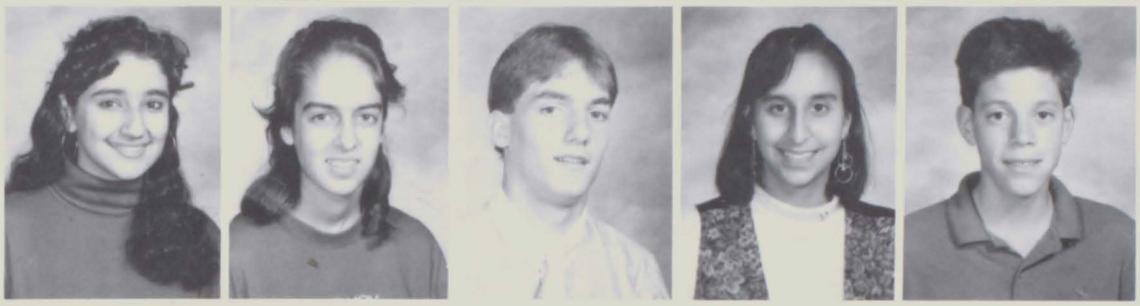
Despite its small size, Mason offered many sports. Coaches became good friends and supporters of team members because they spent a lot of time together before, during and after games. Kathleen Brill said, "We're a small school, but that's cool. You know everyone that way."

Sophomores saw sports as a way to support the red-and-the-white.

Feeling good, Troy Austin (#77) celebrates a fumble recovery made by the Mustangs against Sidwell Friends on September 22. Mustangs won (25-6).

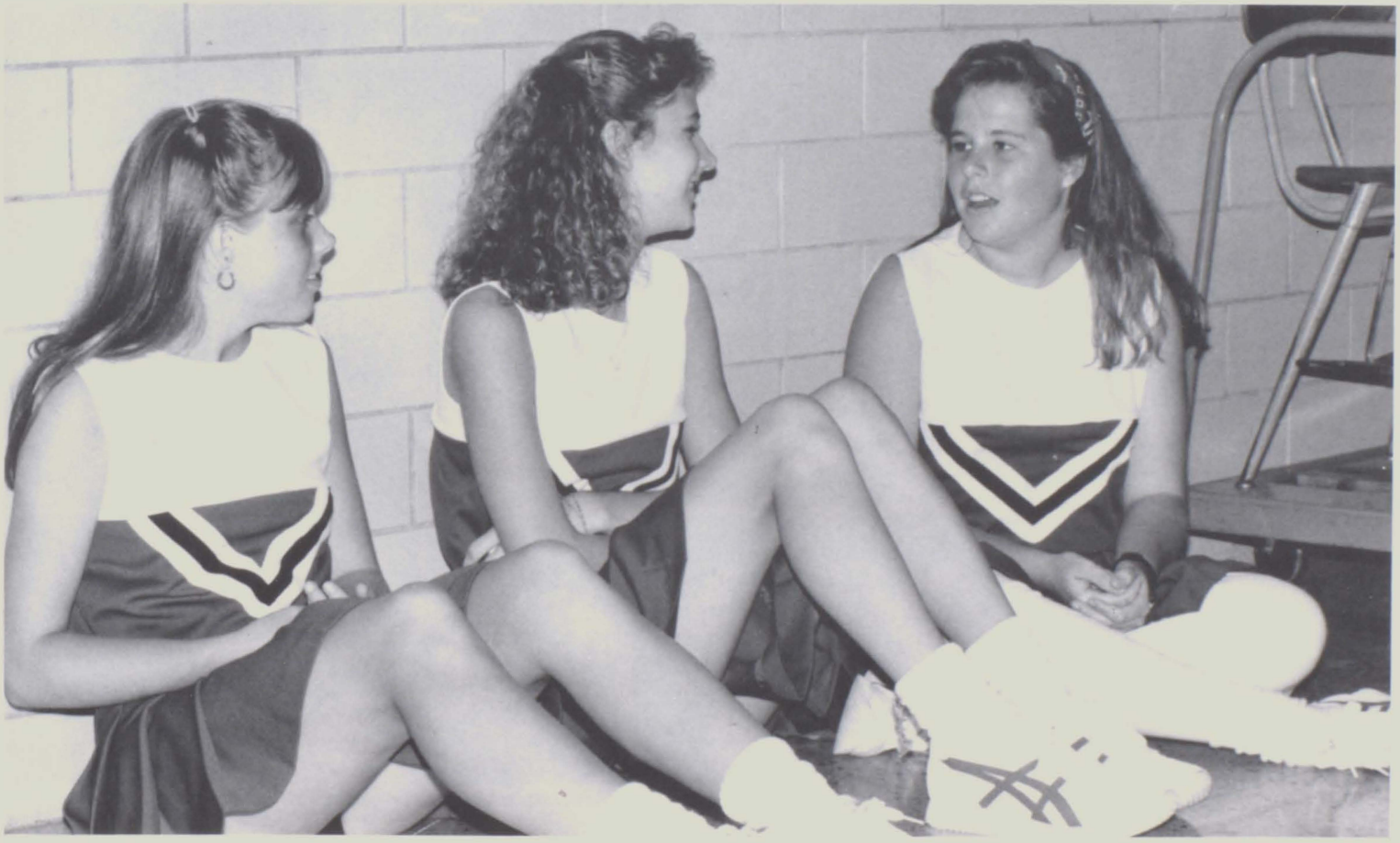
Brian Chong
Genevieve Conaty
Beth Cory
David Douglass
Tamara Droujinsky

Altagracia Espinal
Bethany Falter
Kristina Fisher
Sandra Gallo
Rosilda Garrison



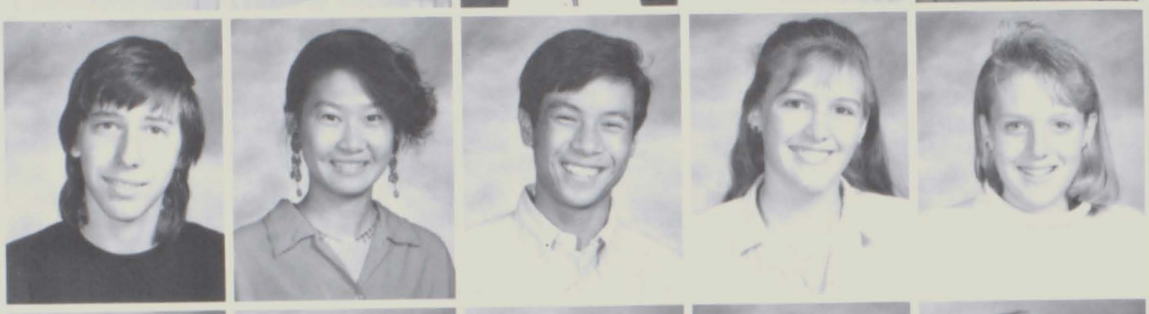
Monica Gera
Amy Gons
Lance Guckenberger
Ana Gupta
David Hartogs

Taking a break, varsity cheerleaders enjoy some free time. *From left:* Tamara Droujinsky, Susie Hill and Amanda Riedel.



Richard Hartogs
Gavin Hecker
Empiritriz Henriquez
Dione Herlinger
Susanne Hill

Justin Hruneni
Ut Huynh
Eric Ignacio
Kristen Jackson
Karen Jacomet

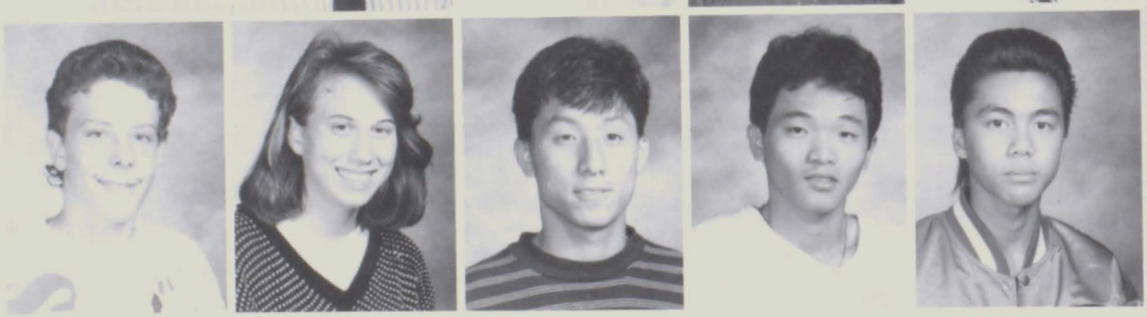


Joshua Jarrett
Jennifer Kanzler
Trevor Krainik
Walter Krebs
Eugenia Leachman

Susanna Lehman
Marcia Longo
Janna Lukomski
Scott Macevoy
Malini Manickavasagam

Josh McCall
Ian McConnors
George McNeill
Isabel Meng
Marco Mercer

Maurice Morillon
Margaret Muller
Peter Oh
Minh Ong
Arvin Pagsisiham



On stage, National Honor Society inductees hold lighted candles, symbols of new membership. Three sophomores were honored on October 10. *Front Row:* sophomores Paul Whichard, Amanda Riedel, David Douglass. *Back Row:* seniors Carolina Naupari, Eric Reimers, Susan Stitt. (NHS requirements consisted of a 3.5 accumulative GPA, six activity points, leader ship qualities, and a three point average on a four point character rating scale.)

Tuba tunes. Justin Reich, a concert band member for the second year, plays at the pep rally held on Friday, September 7.

Making The Jump

Take any sophomore at 7:00 a.m. Not a pretty sight. Early morning hours were not fun times for the ninety-two members of the Class of '93. According to Trevor Krainik, "The hardest thing about school is getting up in the morning. It feels as if someone slammed a brick in your face."

By the time parents or busses deposited them at school, these sophomores were somewhat awake. At least they were one year closer to graduating. They noticed the difference between ninth and tenth grades.

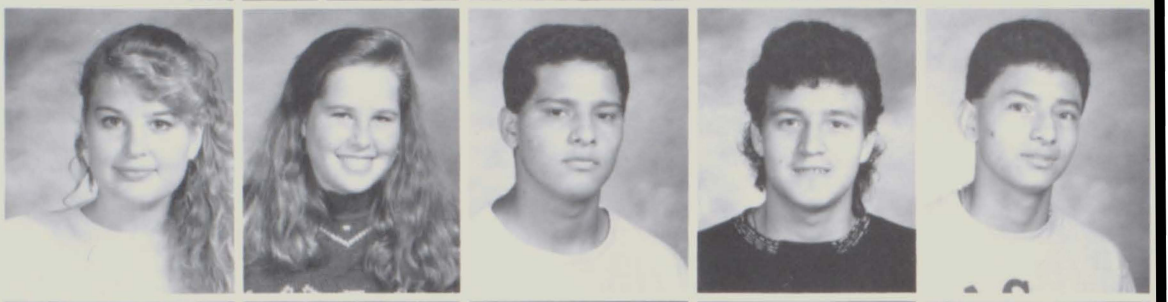
Margaret Bryant said, "The jump from freshman to sophomore is huge." Jennifer Kanzler added, "Everyone is more mature, and people begin to accept one another more than before."

With maturity came added responsibilities. Tougher classes were part of making this jump. "The classes are twice as hard as last year's," admitted Karen Jacomet. Higher level subjects meant a more demanding work load and greater expectations from teachers and parents.

A true bonus for sophomores, however, was taking Driver's Education, the ticket to freedom. John Phillips said, "Learning to drive is very important to me. In fact, it's more important than life itself!" Somehow, knowing one could drive soon helped make the hard times bearable.

Carlos Paz
John Phillips
Christopher Poff
Matthew Quinn
Justin Reich

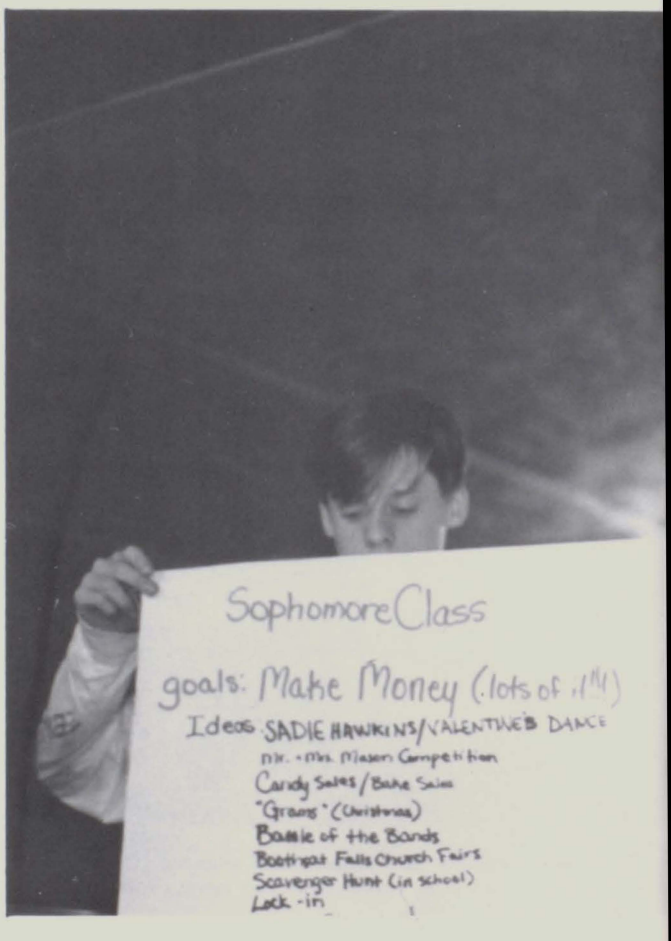
Sherri Renfrow
Amanda Riedel
Melvin Rivera
Rene Rivera
Jose David Robles



Christina Rosholt
Molly Ruland
Paula Salguero
Allan Schneider
Elizabeth Sikkar

Aaron Smith
Lindsay Smith

Luis Sorto
Noah Souders



Making a presentation, Aaron Smith and Ana Gupta (Class President) display sophomore class goals at the Student Council Leadership Retreat. Eight sophomores attended this function held at Camp Overlook from October 13 to 15. Aaron was a sophomore Student Council representative.

Kellen Tasker
Rachna Tauch
Katherine Temple
Cynthia Tran
Luis Ventura

Paul Whichard
Annemarie Wilson
Christopher Worrel
Michelle Yoder
Sonya Zepeda

"School spirit is believing in your school and taking heart in its pride."
- Aaron Smith

"School spirit is when people work together and have fun."
- Marcia Longo

"School spirit is when everybody cheers for all the sports teams and everyone is part of a particular event."
- Annemarie Wilson

Spirit Rousers!

"We've got the spirit!" yelled Michelle Yoder. "School spirit is supporting *everything* about your school, good or bad," she added.

It was difficult if not impossible to tune out the ninety-eight members of the Class of '93 Spirit Rousers. Five girls were varsity cheerleaders; two were JV cheerleaders. They were always "psyched" to lead the Mustangs in cheers at pep rallies and games.

When asked to describe our school, Anne Seitz said, "We are like a little George Mason University with lots of spirit."

It was easier for the sophomores to be spirit rousers. They were comfortable in their "somewhere-in-between position." They knew their way around the school, so they felt secure. They were joiners. Tiffany Smith said, "School spirit is standing behind your school and supporting it."

Lance Guckenberger commented, "School spirit is when everyone is involved in activities." So sophomores signed up for clubs and teams, attended games, and yelled for the red-and-the-white.

"School spirit is when everybody roots for our team."
- David Hartogs

"School spirit is participating in activities that don't have to do with sports!"
- Janna Lukomski

Marjorie Anaya
Joseph Anderson
Denar Antelo
Shon Atabaki
Sarah Barber

Donald Beyer
Larisa Bolivar
Benjamin Bower
Broderick Brady
Sara Brock

Colman Burk
Amie Camden
Laura Chaves
Tomas Cincotta
Jason Cushman

"The tough part about high school is meeting the deadlines. There's so much stress!"
- Al Suarez

"In high school so much more is asked of you. More pressures come from parents, teachers and even friends."
- Melinda Yeary

The Real Thing

September 4, 1990
Teacher: Save all your work from now until January. You'll have a midterm examination.
Student: We'll have *A WHAT?*

And so the first day of classes went for 105 freshmen. They quickly realized that high school classes were "the real thing" and not meant for kids.

Ben Viccellio summed it up this way, "The academic program is difficult to the Max!"

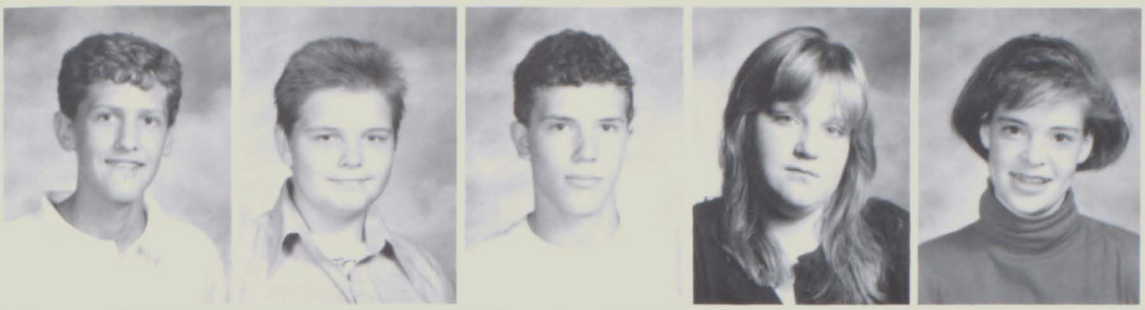
When asked about the hardest part of high school classes, Russ Rosin simply said, "The work." He wasn't alone in his feelings that life was hard in the classroom.

The three R's became responsibilities, rules and reports (and more reports). "Everything is due on the same day!" complained Kristin McDonald. Hannah Edwards added, "I always seem to be doing two projects at the same time."

Freshmen now had to worry about their GPA. Susan Phillips said, "It's stressful to realize that my grades will affect how well I do in years to come." Life was definitely not easy.

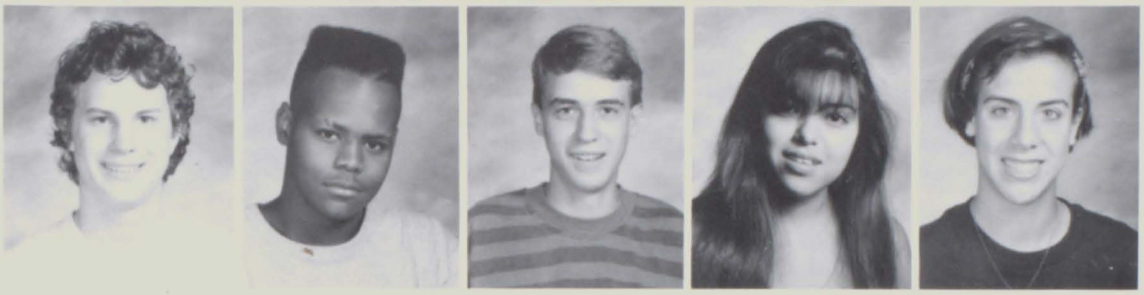
June 14, 1991
Reality ended; summer began.
Life wan't so bad after all!

The thrill of discovery. Liv Nordin completes lab work in Mr. Alan Krueger's Biology I class. They were measuring changes in potato cores.



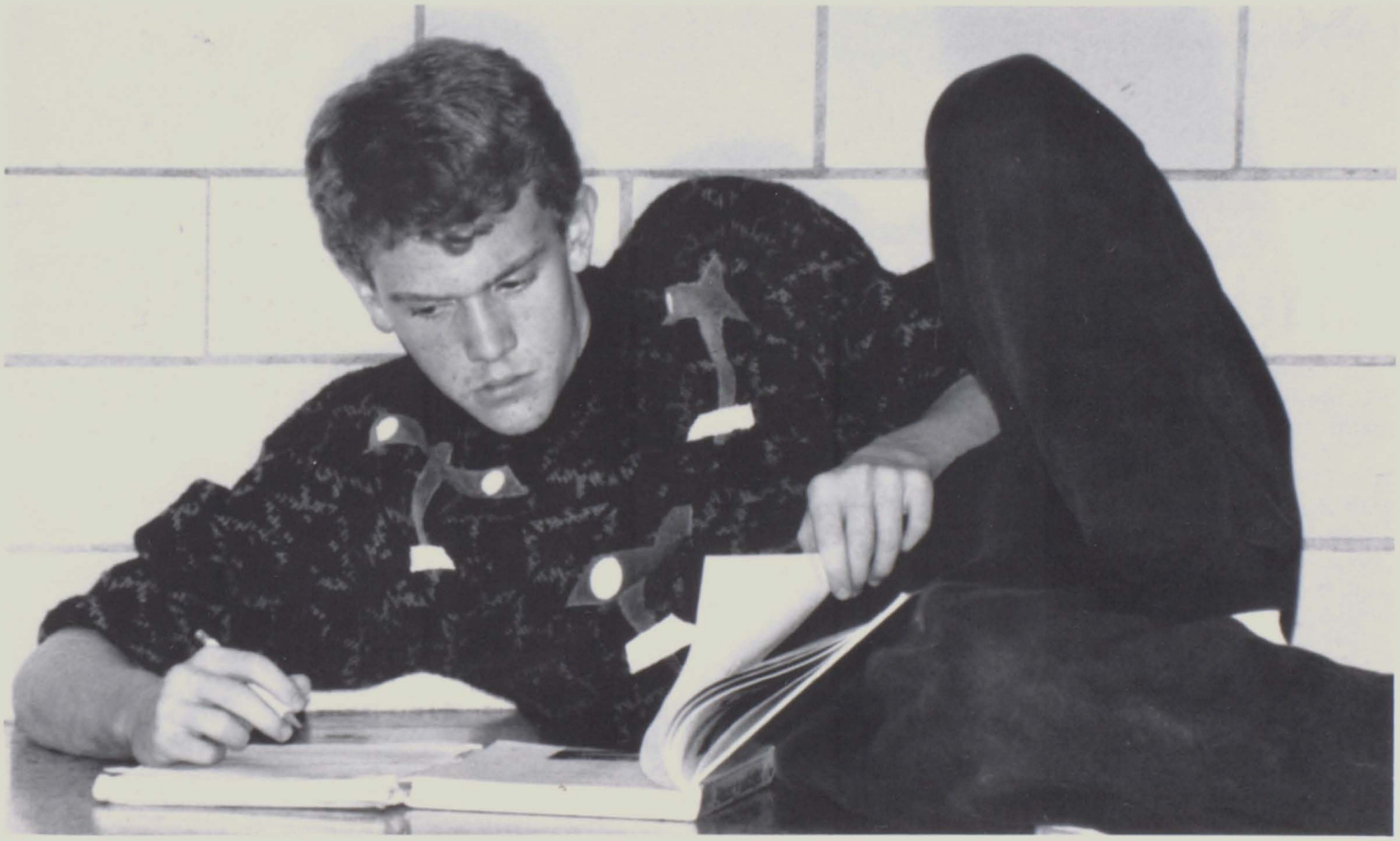
Paul Dampier
Richard Dennee
Christopher Dietz
Michelle Dillman
Diana Dinerman

Lydia Doleman
Toni Fitzgerald
Pablo Flores
Nathalie Gons
Frankie Good



Courtney Hall
David Hall
Joel Hardi
Erika Martinez
Mercedes Heil

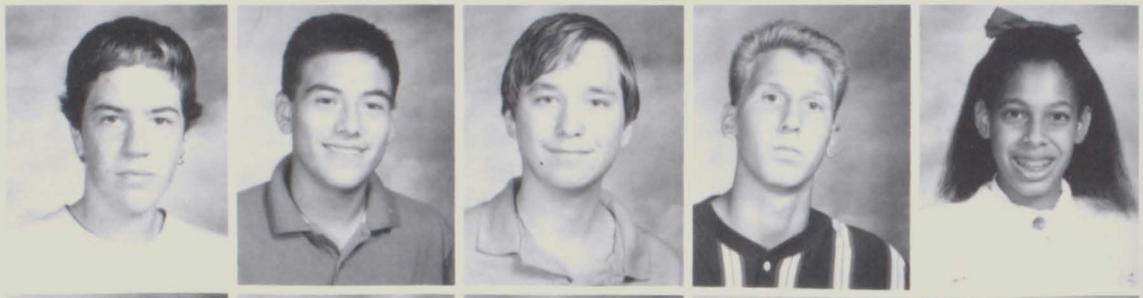
Hitting the books, Chad Jackson begins his math homework after school. Many students spread their books out in the hallway and went to work.



Noah Heller
Ana Herndandez
Bernaldo Hernandez
Sharisse Herrick
Todd Horacek

Lars Howlett
Cindy Hunt
Diana Ibanez
Chad Jackson
Peter Johnson

Christopher Jones
Fernando Jordan
Robbie Karro
Seth Kingsley
Lauren Kramer-Dover

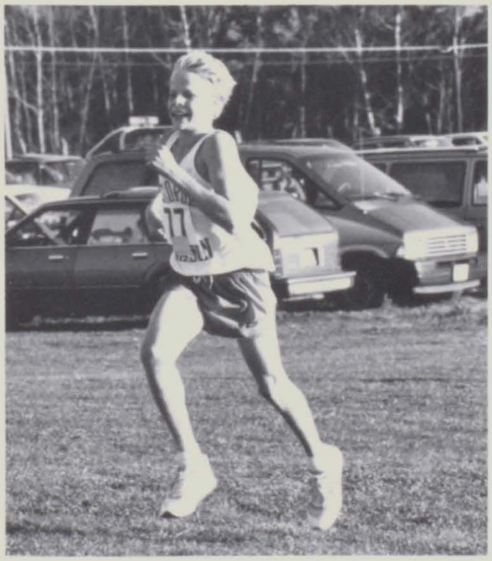


Simone Krembs
Vanna Lam
Norman Lipps
Trina Mangroo
Nathan Martin

Erika Martinez
Kristin McDonald
Forrest McGhee
Brian McLaughlin
Brian Mercer

Stacey Mize
Michael Mohajeri
David Montag
Dinah Moore
Francisco Narvaez

Freshman fun. Amie Camden, Samantha Petrich, and Diana Dinerman feel stress-free at the end of a day. (All three girls were J.V. Cheerleaders.)



Running hard, Chris Yates heads for the finish. Chris was one of two freshmen on a six-member boys' cross-country team.

Freshman Teamwork

"Is cheerleading a sport?" asked Lars Howlett. During the year freshmen attempted to answer that question. They even wrote essays on it in Ms. Nancy Tucker's English classes and debated it in Ms. Mary Rita Ciciarelli's math classes.

Freshmen were not shy about signing up for sports. Many had been team members of JV sports in eighth grade. Marisabel Suarez played on three teams: "I love competition and the feeling of accomplishment."

Amel Smith added, "It's great to play on a team. It's healthy, and it gets other people to join in." Freshmen often looked forward to after-school practice sessions. They were a change of pace from the daily routine of classes. Broderick Brady, who never missed JV football practice, said, "I just enjoy football. I like playing and hitting."

"Fun" had a lot to do with why freshmen signed up for sports. In fact, that was often the only reason why freshmen decided to play a particular sport. Chris Yates said cross-country was "fun as well as challenging." Peter Johnson said, "G.M.'s sports program is really cool."

Hard work was part of team membership. Amie Camden, a cheerleader, observed that the program was "hard and rough," but to some, like Seth Kingsley, "It was inspirational."

Liv Nordin
Mojisola Ojumu
Maria Paljarvi
Jenny Parra
Brent Parrish

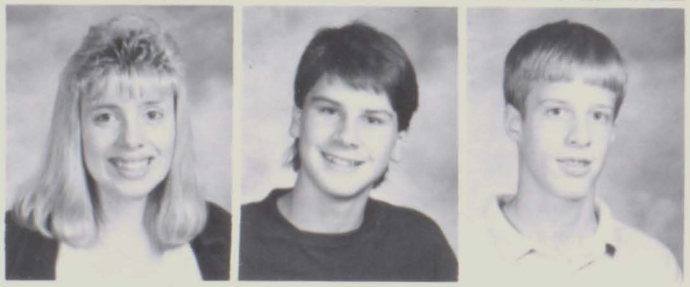
Chris Parrish
Alexander Paz
Jane Perez
Samantha Petrich
Susan Phillips

Sean Polzer
Olivier Revel
Dennis Rice
Russell Rosin
John Schutte

Adrienne Sedei
Amel Smith
Brian Smith
Norma Sorto
Victoria Spevacek

Robert Sprague
Ingrid Stendbergh
Edward Stitt
Alberto Suarez
Marisabel Suarez

Rebecca Sullivan
Timothy Tierney
Andrew Turner



Hot off the press. Adrienne Sedei reads the first issue of *Lasso* during TA on October 19. (The *Lasso* was George Mason's award-winning newspaper.)

Reality Strikes

"I'll always remember meeting all those different people," said Colman Burk. The first day back to school was hectic enough for everyone, but the first day of high school for the freshmen was practically like culture shock.

School became more than a place to hang out with friends. Nate Martin said, "Now I'm responsible for everything." A scary thought! Somehow the easy-going times of middle school were over.

"Middle school is for fun; high school is for work," stated Shon Atabaki. Teachers meant business, and class schedules were complicated.

"Whatever you do goes on your permanent record," revealed Forrest McGhee. The Guidance Department immediately began compiling and saving such data as detentions, referrals, standardized test scores and grades.

Graduation in '94 didn't even seem that far away. "I'm already worrying about college," admitted John Schutte. Mr. Greg Alexiou welcomed freshmen with, "Everything you do counts from now on." But, as Cindy Hunt said, "Freshmen blend in fast." Freshmen frenzy quickly disappeared.

"There's more freedom in high school."
- Sarah Barber

"Middle school is for kids. High school is the real thing."
- Diana Ibanez

"The greatest challenge as a freshman is waking up in the morning."
- Seth Kingsley

Jorge Umana
Benjamin Viccellio
Michael Wells
Brooke Wheaton
Margaretha Wiant

Calvin Wills
Christopher Yates
Melinda Yeary
Andrew Zheng
Karen Zheng

A class conversation. Mr. Greg Alexiou, Assistant Principal, refers to the *Student Handbook* in order to introduce the freshmen to G.M.'s "rules and regulations." They met in Room 180 on the second day of school for their orientation.

Kathy Ahern (Science)
Dominique Anderson (For. Language)
Marilyn Anderson (Guidance Coord.)
Erin Albright (Mid. Sch.-Soc. Stud.)
Greg Alexiou (Assistant Principal)
Eileen Backofen (Computer Ed. Coord.)
John Ballou (Art/Music Coordinator)

Tamara Ballou (Mid. Sch.-6th Grade)
Terry Brownfield (M.S. - 6th Grade)
Judy Buechner, (Secretary-Inst.)
Peri Carlin (Physical Education)
Mary Rita Ciciarelli (Mathematics)
Dorothy Clinton (Sec.-Asst. Prin.)
Carol Cofey (ESL)

Theresa Doherty (For. Language)
Carol Fellman (Sec.-M.S. Prin.)
Mark Fredenburg (Science)
Jack Gambill (P.E. Coordinator)
Alan Graham (Industrial Arts)
Sue Graves (School Nurse)
Tony Green (Phys. Education)

Jack Hamlin (Foreign Language)
Barbara Hendrick (Spec. Ed.)
Robin Hopes-Herrick (Spec. Ed.)
Lindy Hockenberry (M.S.-6th Grade)
Michael Hoover (English Coord.)
Linda Johnsen (For. Language)
Sandra Johnson (Spec. Ed. Coord.)

John Kalepp (M.S.-Soc. Studies)
Judy Knoke (Mathematics)
Vanessa Kozmon (Music)
Al Krueger (Science)
Nora Lebahn (Art)
Phil Lindsey (Mid. Sch. Counselor)
Joyce Lowry (Bus./Voc. Coord.)

"Education is the passing of our inheritance to the next generation. It is 'Passing the torch.' "
- Richard Peloquin

Just beginning. Mr. Jefferson Cronin (director of school plays and permanent sub) introduces Vaclav Havel's play *The Memorandum* to Drama Club members. Seated to his right are juniors Scarlet Wynns and Joseph Gross. The play was performed by nine students on three consecutive nights (Nov. 1-3).

A special moment. Varsity basketball coach Lori McConnell gives junior Erin Stobo some pointers at a home game against Rappahannock on October 4.

In formal attire. Ms. Tess Raynor conducts the choir at the NHS Induction Ceremony held in the auditorium on October 10.

Taking It All On

QUESTIONS TO PONDER:

1. What makes a person go into education and become a teacher?
2. What makes a teacher turn to George Mason for a job?

Fourteen new staff members greeted Mustangs in classrooms this year and decided to "take it all on." Over twenty percent of the staff probably felt more nervous than freshmen. They all had different answers to the questions.

Lori McDonnell said, "I decided to go into education because I wanted to coach basketball and work with young adults," whereas Eileen Byrnes said, "I like to give kids opportunities to do their best and feel good about themselves.

They all came to work hard, get involved in activities, and do what they did best: teach the students.

Job opportunities opened up for them, and they proved themselves to be the dedicated, talented teachers a good school system demands. They were people who appreciated close contact with the students both in and out of classrooms.

Peri Carlin, sports trainer, said, "I like the kids because they're different everyday. You never know what to expect."

Megan Noyes put it simply: "Our teachers care about us." The new teachers didn't waste any time in accepting new duties and "taking it all on."

Michael Malone (Special Education)
Pam Mathews (Alternative Education)
Nancy Mattran (Science Coordinator)
Lori McConnell (Special Education)
Gail Meighan (English)
John Moroney (Guidance)
Sharon Newcome (Reading)

Gail Nolan (Soc. St. Coordinator)
Maria O'Connell (Librarian)
Robert Palermo (M.S. - 6th Grade)
Betty Pitera (Sec. - Media Center)
Tony Price (Alternative Education)
Grace Rissetto (ESL Coordinator)
Sally Rosholt (Secretarial - Guid.)

Pat Ryan (Secretarial - Principal)
Patti Scheunemann (Physical Educ.)
Frank Sheedy (Industrial Arts)
Harry Shovlin (M.S. - 6th Grade)
Robert Snee (For. Lang. Coordinator)
Lou Sorrentino (Social Studies)
Marjory Speir (Sec. - Asst. Prin.)

Jim Spirodopoulos (Phys. Education)
Joan Tannenbaum (M.S. Principal)
George Thoms (Building Principal)
Maureen Wells Truncale (Phys. Ed.)
Nancy Tucker (English)
Pat Turner (Mid. Sch. - English)
Janet Weber (Math Coordinator)

Cay Wiant (Mid. Sch. - English)
Mary Beth Williams (Visiting Tchr.)

Summertime memories. Senior Blair White shows her summer '90 pictures to Ms. Sally Rosholt (Guidance Secretary), Jennifer Rosholt ('89 graduate), and sophomore Marcia Longo.

Time out. Coach Michael Malone gives a pep talk to junior varsity basketball players.

A stress-free moment. Guidance Counselor Marilyn Anderson and senior Monique Gurley exchange summer vacation stories during the first week back.

Serious stuff. Mr. Frank Sheedy, Industrial Arts teacher, helps junior Marquis Tinner prepare the new T-head in the print shop. His assignment was a two-color job in Printing II.

An Open-Door Policy

"The teachers care about what you do," explained John Daugherty. The word "care" had a special connotation for the teachers. It translated into, "Sure, come and see me after school for help," or "I'm here at 7:15 a.m. I'll go over these problems with you then." No door was closed to shut out a student with a special problem or need.

The V.I.P. treatment was what G.M. teachers were skilled at giving. "Small class sizes allow teachers to interact with us on a more personal level," said James Carson.

Although the teacher-to-student ratio was rising, teachers still provided those warm fuzzies that meant so much to students. "The teachers are great, and students get a lot of attention," were Beth Falter's words to describe the teacher-student relationship.

Trina Mangroo, a freshman, felt how special this relationship was. "Our school is great because we get more attention from teachers." Students became much more than an identification number.

> "The best part of my job is working with young people on a day-to-day basis, seeing them mature and make decisions."
> - Marilyn Anderson

At right, Gandu Thily cuts the grass behind the school on a hot September day. *Below,* Ms. Judi Jenkins and Mr. Lewis Aylor take a break during a busy morning.

The calm before the storm. Mr. Bill Warrington (supervisor of the bus drivers) enjoys a quiet moment at 2:30 P.M. before his riders show up.

"I would describe George Mason as a small school in which everyone knows everyone. It's almost like a big family."
- Trevor Krainik
Sophomore

5C lunch time. Ms. Clara Loza (manager) sells freshman Chris Dietz a cookie.

The bus lineup. Busses park at an angle outside the gymnasium doors to pick up students at 2:45. *At left, The Dining Hall Staff: From left:* Ms. Angelis Marine, Ms. Linda Thuy, Ms. Charlotte Byrd, Ms. Rannette Stancill, Ms. Kay Coady, Ms. Audrey Courtney. *Inset picture:* Ms. Kay Kennedy (supervisor) fills a tray with donuts at a special assembly held in the dining hall.

Happy and smiling. Night-shift maintenance staffers Maria Arce and Lucia Arenas take a break.

An advanced printing student, senior Darren Lomis sets up the folder in the print shop, preparing to fold 7,000 copies of "Our Schools."

Unmistakably

Mustang Academics

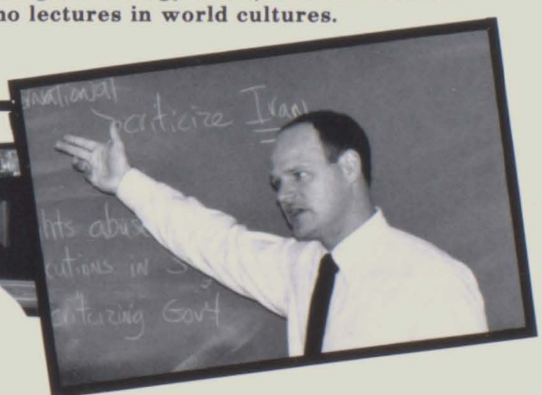
"I will always remember the teachers and what they tried to teach us. Certain qualities in each of them stand out," said senior Roget Bryan.

Teachers and students worked together as a team. They were "a community of learners" who continually met to evaluate the curriculum and recognize each other's changing needs.

Freshman Michael Betz, a new student, called Mason "a center of learning." As Mustangs began a new decade, the thirty-eight year-old building prepared for a major fifteen million dollar renovation to begin in 1992.

The Guidance Department looked for perfect matches between students and classes. An example was senior Darren Lomis who called printing "the best part of my day because I know what I'm doing and I like it!"

Advanced art student Emily Hall (junior) carefully completes a pen-and-ink sketch. She was Mr. John Ballou's student. Below: sophomore Ut Huynh types copy in Ms. Joyce Lowry's Keyboarding I class; freshman lab partners Peter Johnson and Lars Howlett complete an experiment in Mr. Al Krueger's biology class; Mr. Lou Sorrentino lectures in world cultures.



"In art you're free to express yourself."
- Adrienne Sedei

"Art is an escape."
- Trevor Krainik

Using an enlarger, sophomore Jeff Anderson works on a project for Mr. John Ballou's Art I class.

Giving advice, Mr. Ballou helps freshman Brent Parrish sketch an idea in beginning drawing.

"Band is relaxation time."
- Chad Jackson

"Chorus is the best part of the day for me."
- Michelle Yoder

A quintet. Five student trumpet players volunteered to play together in the Annual Winter Band Concert on December 7. *From left:* juniors Mike Noyes and Jessica Menendez, freshman Chad Jackson, senior Jason Doolittle, sophomore Allan Schneider.

Art and Music: Time To Unwind

A seven-period day was grueling. It added up to over three hundred minutes of classtime for most students. Art and music classes were the answer. They were perfect times to unwind.

Junior Joe Wilson said, "In art I release my tension." Music played and everyone chilled out. Beginning through advanced and IB levels were offered to tap any student's talents.

Freshman Laura Chaves looked forward to art: "It's more open and relaxing, not stuffy like a classroom."

Susan Phillips, also a freshman, said, "Art is the only class I can relax and enjoy myself in." In fact, it didn't even feel like a class! You wanted to hurry to class to finish a project.

Music classes provided students an opportunity to relax, unwind, and release tensions as well. You could belong to the High school Band, Girl's Ensemble, or Senior High Chorus.

Freshman Lauren Dover-Kramer said, "I really enjoy chorus because it allows me to express myself creatively."

If you signed up for these music classes, you were expected to perform at various events throughout the year. There were sports events, pep rallies, special assemblies and charity functions that counted on you to do your best. You always shined!

Dynamic duo. Sophomore Lindsay Smith and junior Stacy Dewalt play flutes side-by-side during the NHS Inductions (October 10) and Annual Winter Band Concert (December 7). They were two of five flutists who performed in the High School Band.

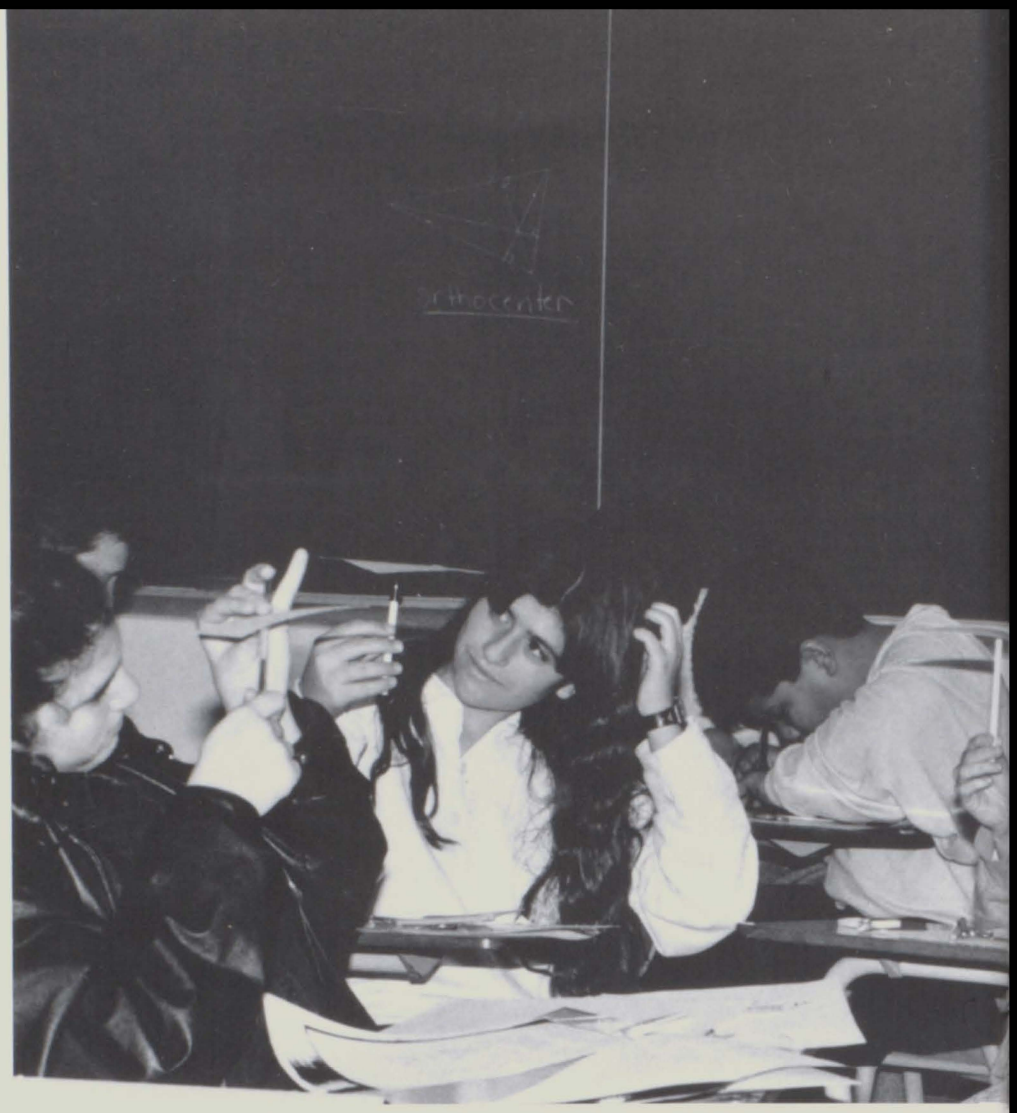
In formal attire, Ms. Tess Raynor, director, leads the High School Chorus in song at the NHS Inductions on October 10. *Front Row:* Isabel Meng, Rosemary Ragusa, Michelle Yoder. *Second Row:* Sarah Letts, Kathleen Brill, Catherine Bradley, Bethany Morde. *Back Row:* James Hooper, David Garrison, Darren Lomis.

"The whole modern world revolves around math."
- Frankie Good

"Math is our future."
- John Schutte

"Most careers are based on mathematics."
- Luis Ventura

"You use it every day!"
- Blair Cameron

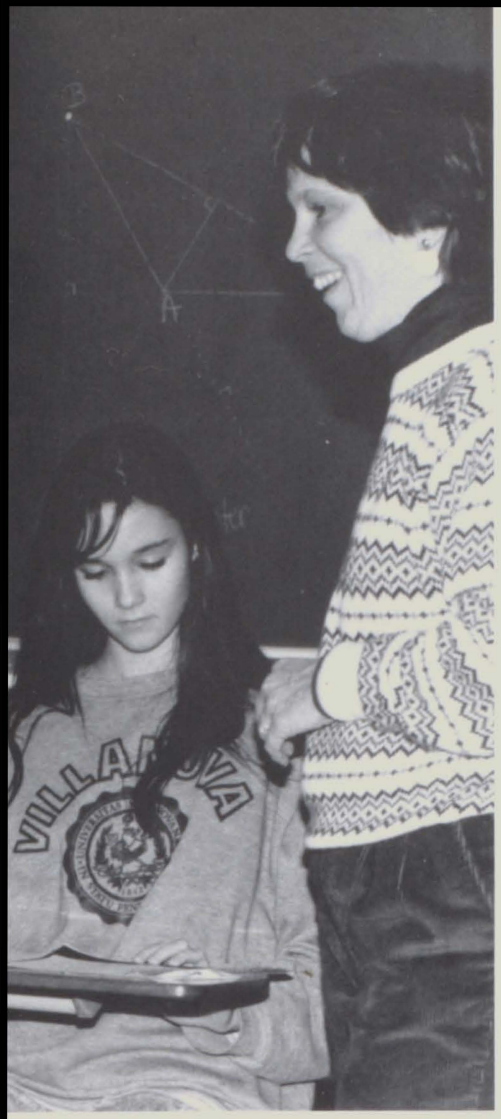


A job well done. Ms. Janet Weber enjoys her advanced geometry students' success as they test the center of gravity. Working in a cooperative learning group were freshmen Hanna Edwards, Toni Fitzgerald and Laura Chaves. Ms. Weber incorporated the concept of students' being actively involved in their learning in all her classes. Students formed groups early in the school year and worked closely together on a regular basis.

Extra help. Ms. Barbara Hendrick goes over basic geometry problems with senior Medena Small.

"It explains a lot of stuff."
- Olga Barrionuevo

"We have a lot of fun."
- Vicki Snowden



Helping out, Ms. Eileen Brynes shows sophomore Troy Austin how to solve a problem in basic geometry class. This course concentrated on angles and contructions.

Math Class: Survival Skills

"Without knowledge of math, you really can't do anything," said freshman Diana Ibanez. And the majority of students agreed with her.

Math skills and future plans often went together. You didn't have to be a future mathematician or an Einstein to appreciate what math could do for you. Senior Patty Trippett said, "I know I'll be using math in life."

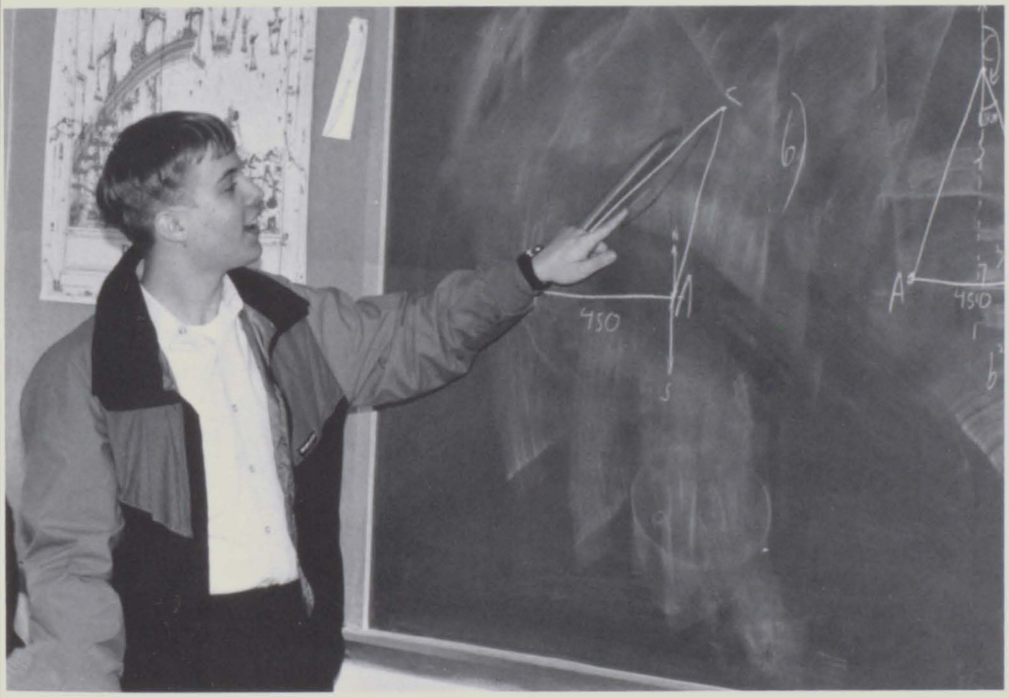
Math just wasn't one of those courses that you wouldn't need after graduation. It taught you how to balance your checkbook, fill out a tax form, and buy paint for a house. There were a lot of practical applications.

You needed two years of math for graduation, but most students signed up for advanced level courses. There were basic courses as well as various levels of algebra, geometry, trigonometry and calculus in the curriculum.

Many careers of the nineties and twentieth-first century required computer skills, so students could opt to take computer science classes to learn to design original programs and learn problem-solving techniques.

Despite the brain power required, math class translated into fun times.

"If you don't know math, you can't possibly survive in the future."
- Broderick Brady



Using the workbook, Ms. Mary Rita Ciciarelli explains how to solve a problem to her Algebra I students. Ms. Ciciarelli also taught functions and finite math.

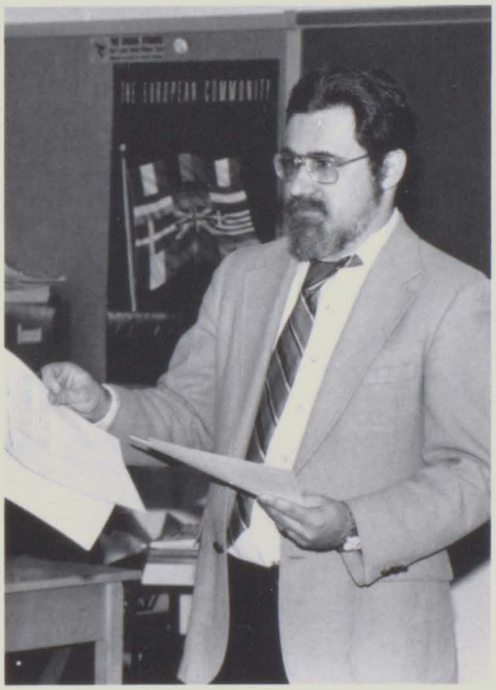
Using the board, senior Charles Pittaluga solves an algebra problem in Algebra III/Trigonometry class. Ms. Weber's class was a college-prep course open to juniors and seniors.

"We learn from mistakes, ours and someone else's who died thousands of years ago."
Michael Betz

All aboard. Juniors and seniors prepare to leave for Williamsburg. Ninety sophomores, juniors and seniors toured the colonial city on December 12. Ms. Gail Nolan, social studies chairperson, organized this educational field trip.

Using Newsbank, junior Jennifer Hoffman searches for information on teenage suicide. Seniors Mitch Falter and Andrew Burk were in Jennifer's psychology class, taught by Ms. Gail Nolan.

A tough assignment. Juniors Stacy Dewalt and Kate Fletcher go over requirements for a paper with Ms. Gail Nolan, psychology teacher. They were working on guided course work.



Above, Mr. Richard Peloquin, first year teacher at George Mason, hands out quiz papers to his world cultures students.

Left, Mr. Greg Alexiou (Assistant Principal) engages in a class discussion with his theory of knowledge students. Students had to be enrolled in at least three IB courses in order to take this course. (Allen Scully was a senior student.)

Social Studies: Using The Past

If the twenty-first century was just a decade away, then why did you have to study ancient civilizations? If you were saving the planet and doing your part by recycling, then why did you need to look back? Wasn't the future "in" and the past "out"? The answer was "DEFINITATELY NOT!"

Freshman Sara Brock expressed it this way: "We must learn from the mistakes of the past so we don't make the same ones in the future."

You couldn't escape the past in any history course. Western civilization, world cultures, government and psychology all traced the development of cultures and societies. Junior Erin Stobo said, "History is the most important subject to study. It's good to know about the previous world."

You had to take three years of social studies. That meant your teachers had to be clever to walk you through all major time periods of history and help you retain facts and hundreds of dates.

Lively discussions, plenty of videos, and field trips to museums and historical sites all helped history come alive. Freshman Chris Yates said, "I like western civilization. We get to express our opinions a lot."

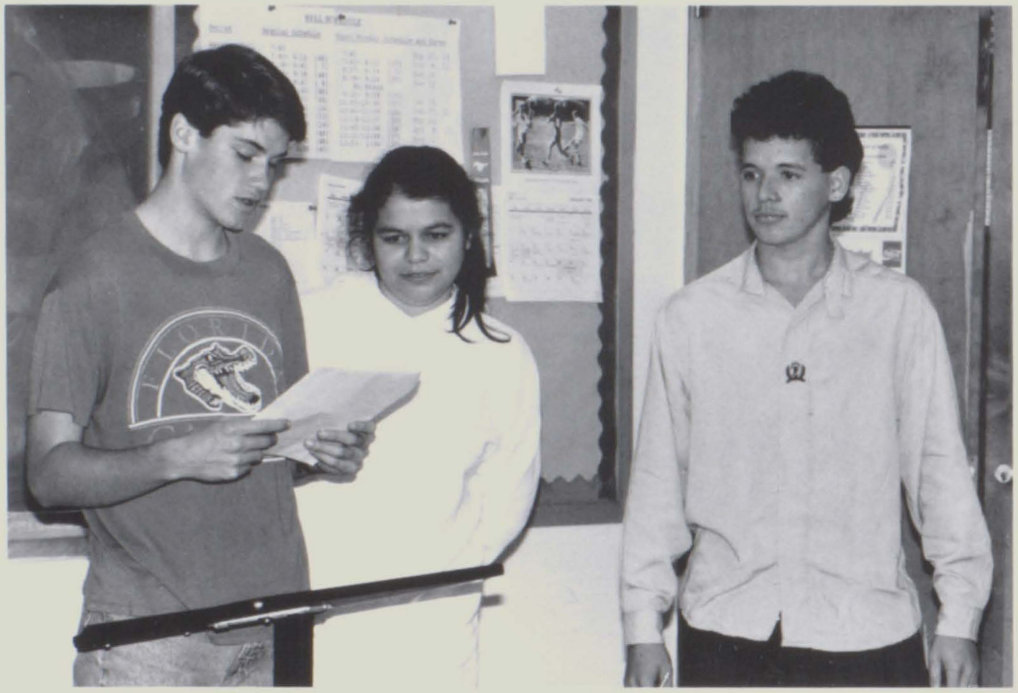
"I enjoy learning what framed the nation. It's fun to study how our government works."
- Mercedes Heil

"Without being able to read and write, you can't get anywhere in life. English is important!"

- Chris Jones

New to the school, Ms. Sherri Benites teaches her sophomore English students ways to learn new vocabulary words.

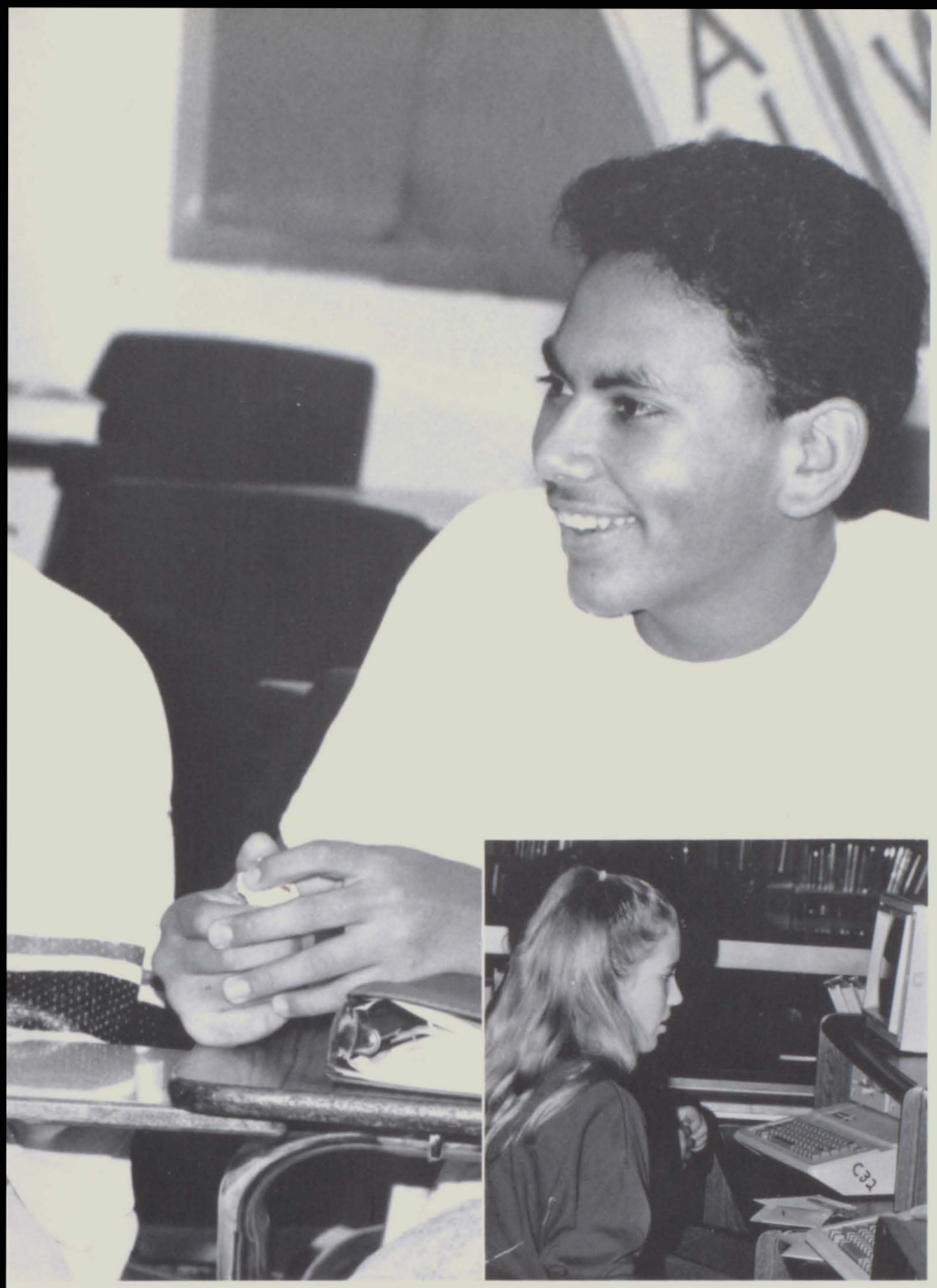
Giving a presentation, sophomores Kellen Tasker and Emperatriz Henriquez and junior Jorge Hernandez analyze poetry in Ms. Benites' class.



"For me English is the most important subject to study because I lack cultural literacy."

- Andrew Craig

Face-to-face, senior Zach Falter confers with Mr. Michael Hoover. Zach was sports editor of *Lasso,* the school's newspaper. Mr. Hoover, its advisor, taught journalism, which was open to sophomores through seniors.



English Class: Expression Time

QUESTION: What subject did you have to take every year with no exceptions?
ANSWER: English, of course.

There was no way to avoid signing up for English class, so you just had to dive right into the challenges that literature and writing assignments provided. Actually, it wasn't painful for most students. In fact, they even enjoyed showing up at class.

"English is where you can express yourself freely," stated freshman Noah Heller. You discussed limitless topics covering personal problems, global concerns, ancient times, and the future.

English was like medicine; it was good for you. Sophomore Rosie Garrison said, "English is an important language all over the world. We have to know it."

You signed up for college-bound or advanced English, depending on your skills and interests. There were also basic skills and ESL classes to help students having difficulties mastering the language. You understood why it was a four-year program of study.

Tallison Rausch, a junior in IB English, said, "English is the most important subject to study. It's the basis for this country's communication, and we have to learn how to use it to our advantage."

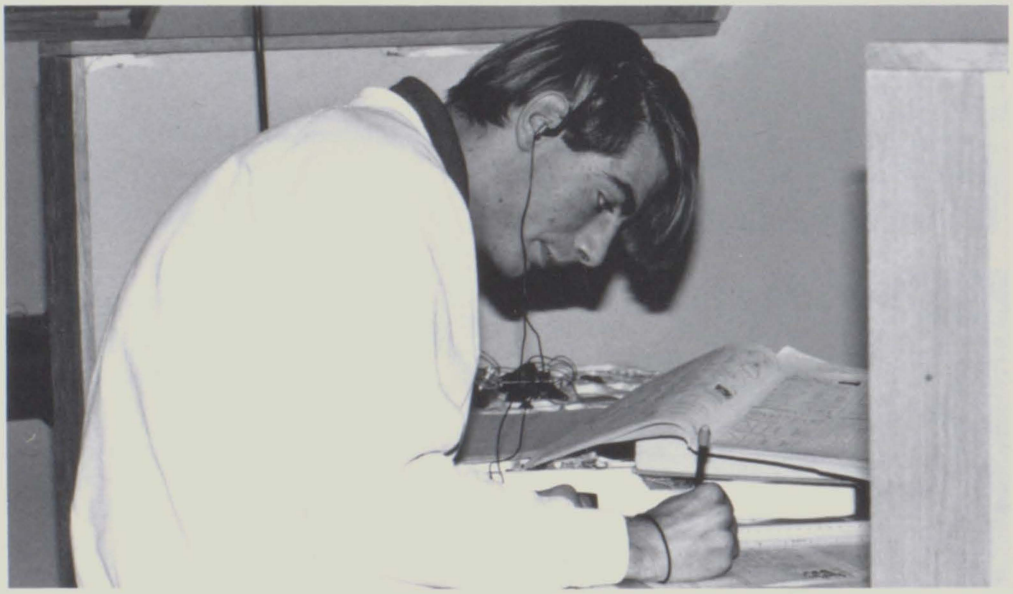
Freshman fun. Chad Jackson and Oscar Fuentes pair up during a game of Scattergories in Ms. Tucker's English class. *Meeting a deadline,* freshman Vicki Spevacek works on a research report in Ms. Tucker's class.

Special attention. Ms. Anna Kibble helps junior Jose Hernandez understand a difficult poem, after school.

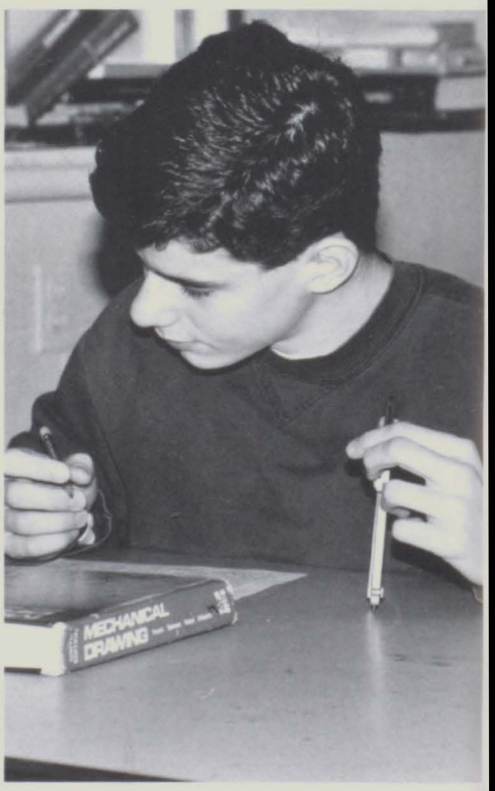
"I love child development class. I want to work with kids after I graduate. It's all I want!"
- Norma Henriquez

"Child development is fun. I get to chat with my friends while making Playdoh with the kids."
- Beth Falter

Having fun, sophomores Beth Falter, Sandra Gallo and Altagracia Espinal interact with Falls Church pre-schoolers in child development class. *Big smiles.* Senior Norma Henriquez (third year child development student) makes Playdoh with several girls in the class. (Falls Church parents sent their pre-schoolers to the morning class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tuition was free. Students received credit while having a great time.)



Working on a graph, senior Dallas Heil listens to music and concentrates in engineering drawing, taught by Mr. Alan Graham.



Following instructions, sophomore Josh Jarrett works on a project in basic drawing, also taught by Mr. Graham.

With eyes on the screen, sophomore Ann Seitz types copy in Ms. Joyce Lowry's keyboarding class. This course formerly was Typewriting I, open to freshmen through seniors.

Learning Skills For Future Use

Twenty-three available courses did not add up to a small Vocational Educational Program. In fact, it was one of the largest, most stimulating departments that kept changing to meet future needs of students.

If you took business courses, you mastered basic software programs and standard machinery for office jobs.

If you took trade and industrial education courses, you were trained by Mr. Frank Sheedy to use all the machines in the print shop. Sophomore Justin Hruneni, a second-year printing student, said, "Printing is fun. It's not a sit-down kind of class. You move around."

If you signed up for home economics, you faced rewarding experiences at the stove, in front of a sewing machine or in the kiddie corner. Child Development won the prize for popularity in the department because of its unique training with Falls Church pre-schoolers. Sophomore Janna Lukomski said, "It's my best class because it's interesting and educational."

Technology educational courses were taught by Mr. Alan Graham. You might have been a future artist or engineer, or perhaps you just liked working with your hands, constructing or drawing.

"Printing is great. You get a lot of helpful experience working with all the machines."
- Chris Poff

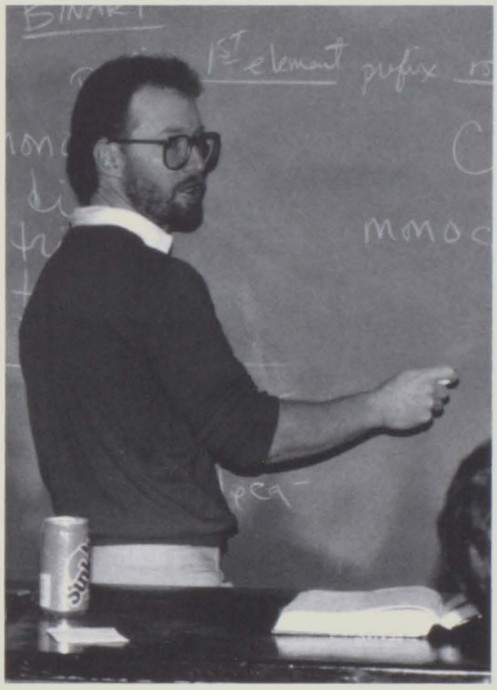
Being supervised by Mr. Frank Sheedy, sophomore Justin Hruneni learns how to set up the controls of the press in Printing II. Students were responsible for printing many publications, announcements, invitations and posters that were distributed to the school and Falls Church community. All students had hands-on instruction to learn to operate the various machines in use.

"The greatest challenge in teaching is making my students aware of my belief in them."
- Ms. Kathy Ahern

A strange specimen. Sophomore George McNeill holds up a horseshoe crab for freshman Brian Mercer to enjoy. They were Mr. Al Krueger's Biology I students who had collected specimens to study while on an October field trip to the Chesapeake Bay.

Hard stuff. Ms. Kathy Ahern assists freshman Olga Barrionuevo as she identifies rocks in earth science. Geology was one of four units of study in this course.

Helping out, Ms. Brenda Whaley, physics teacher, demonstrates how to determine the work being done when one pulls up an inclined plane. *From left:* Andrew Craig, Ari Losman and Sheryl Whitaker.



At the board, Mr. Mark Fredenburg explains chemical equations to his Chemistry I students.

Having a good time, junior Jason Robertson carries out an experiment in IB physics on centripetal force. He was attempting to determine the relationship between force and circular motion. Mr. Fredenburg was the teacher of this course, which was open to juniors and seniors.

Science Class: A Fun Happening

Science was a three-lettered word: FUN. It meant having a good time while working with friends and often making a mess at the lab table. So what if you didn't know what you were doing? No one blew up the school. All was well.

Sophomore Margaret Bryant said, "We all make chemistry fun, no matter how difficult it is to understand." It was time to use maximum brain power when faced with laws, equations, relationships and principles.

Senior Hannah Burke liked advanced physics: "IB physics is the best part of my day because, oddly enough, it's fun!" Studying the world in a different way was a unique challenge. You weren't glued to your seat staring at the teacher.

Future scientists couldn't get enough of it. Even though students were only required to take two years in order to graduate, many signed up for a course every year. Sophomore Isabel Meng, a future botanist, remarked, "I like biology. I know a lot of the answers, and I get a lot of attention in class."

Field trips to study Chesapeake Bay specimens and to museums to see exhibits only added to the fun.

"Physics is fun. There are a few clowns in the class, and the labs are fun to do."
- Sheryl Whitaker

"Spanish is a subject of communication which allows this world to work. Many jobs are available to bilingual speakers."
- Alison Sedei

Addressing her Spanish I students, Ms. Dominique Anderson teaches basic grammar.

Face-to-face, Mr. Robert Snee gives sophomore Paul Bailey an oral examination in Spanish III. This course emphasized conversational Spanish.

"We need to increase our students' levels of consciousness, a real potential for education."
- Dr. Jack Hamlin

Using a cassette recording, Dr. Jack Hamlin tries an innovative approach to teaching vocabulary to his Spanish I students. Dr. Hamlin earned his doctorate degree during the school year, basing it on transpersonal psychology at UVA.

Languages: Real Opportunities

"It's kind of like a secret code since everybody doesn't know it," said freshman Jane Perez, a Spanish student. There was something mysterious about learning another language.

You didn't need a foreign language course in order to graduate from high school, but most four-year colleges required two years of study.

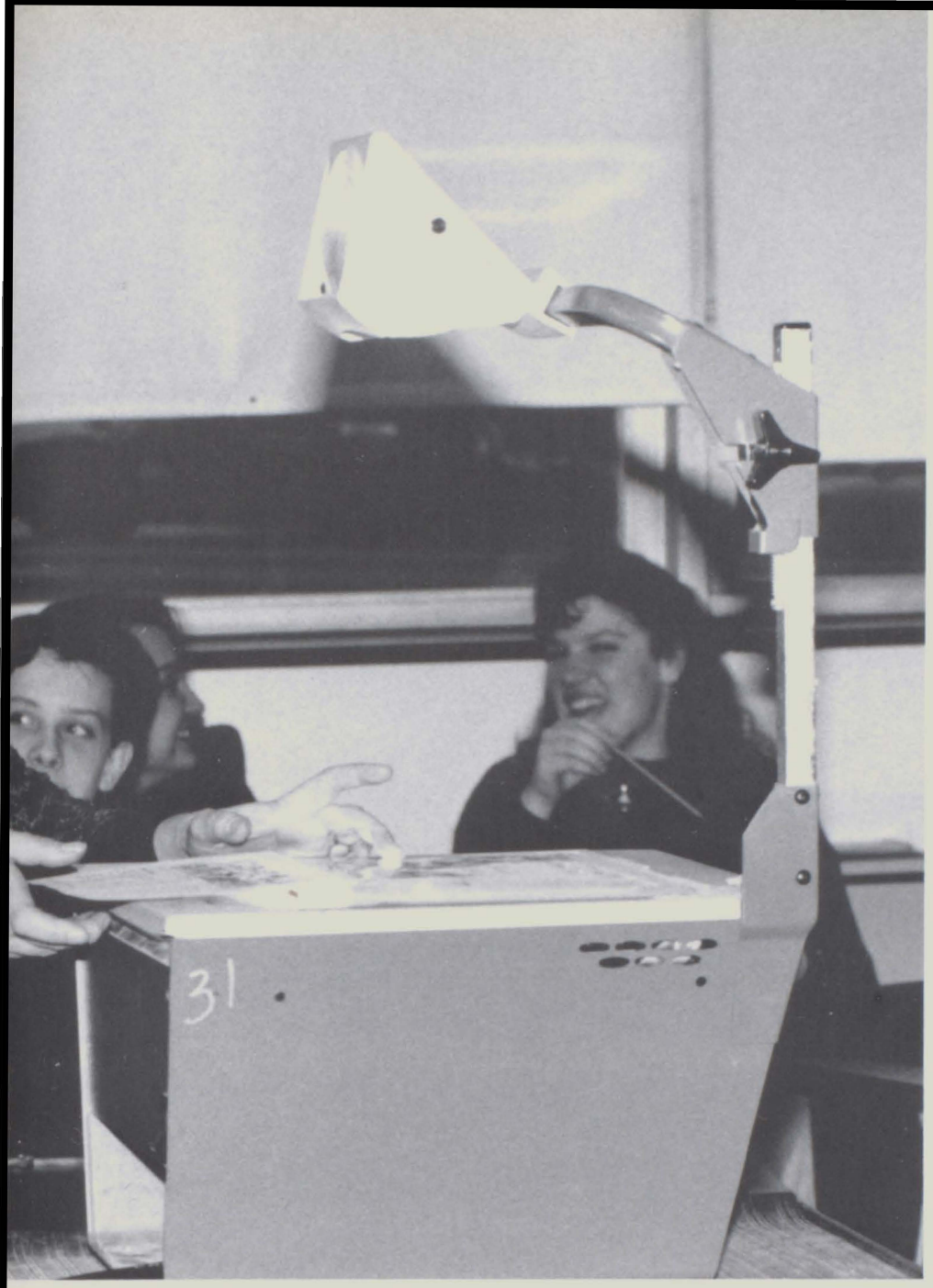
Spanish I through V as well as IB Spanish were offered. It was a popular language to study. Junior Marco Mercer said, "More and more people in this country are Spanish speaking. It's important to know the language."

French I through V were also offered. Although it was difficult to master the accent, students enjoyed the challenge. Sophomore Annemarie Wilson said, "I like French III. We laugh a lot, but we work hard."

Students also dreamed of packing a bag and heading for foreign countries to practice their language study. That was their incentive to study vocabulary and struggle to converse.

Playing games, viewing movies, eating authentic foods and going on field trips added to the opportunity of learning how to communicate.

Junior Rob Hartman and sophomore Margaret Muller were Latin II students. Called "Distance Learning," the course had an Electronic Classroom teacher who spoke to Rob and Margaret by phone.

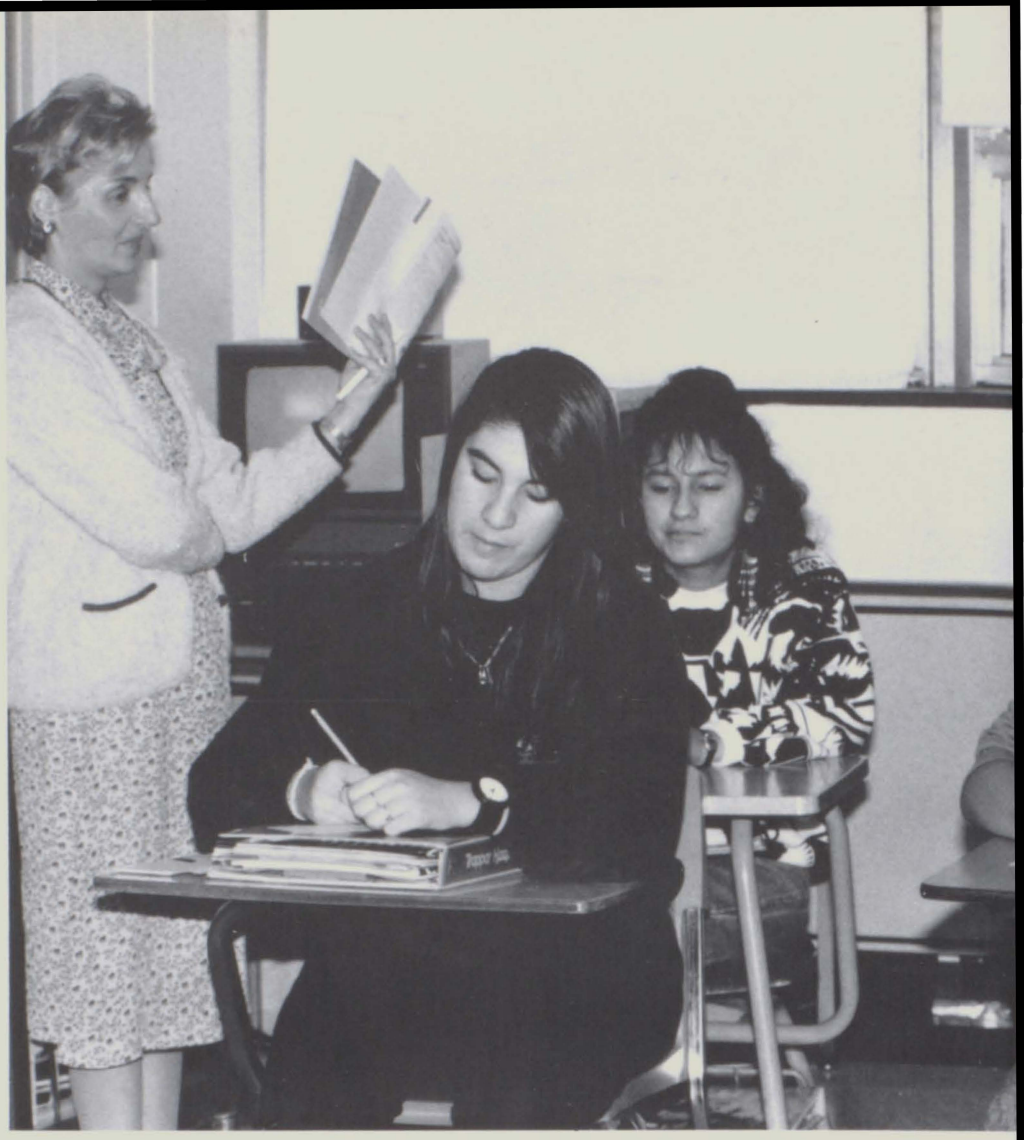


A light moment. Ms. Linda Johnsen jokes with her French II students as she prepares a lesson on imaginary life in Paris. Intermediate French concentrated on grammar, conversation and culture.

Group work. Spanish I students work together to complete classwork on questions and answers. *From left:* sophomores Elizabeth Sikkar and Dione Herlinger and freshman Janine Rehse. (They were Ms. Anderson's students.)

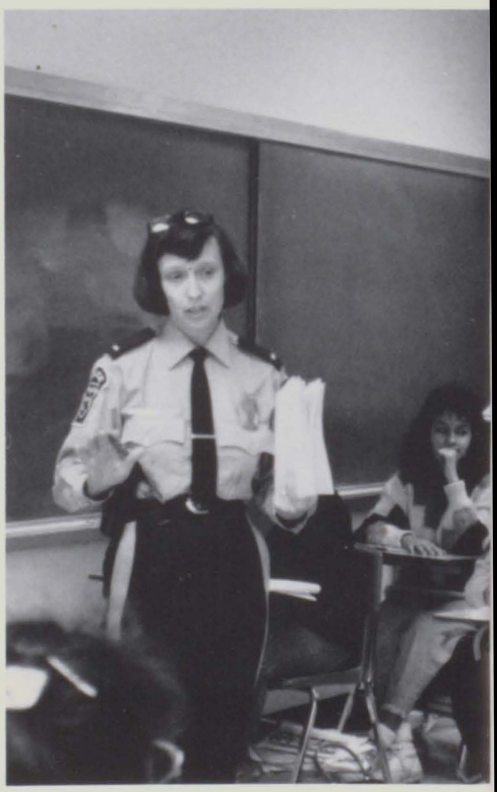
"I think it was a good idea to create ESL. I congratulate the people who did it."
- Rosa Portillo

"The good thing about ESL is the seriousness of it. It is good to keep us working all the time."
- Ada Flores

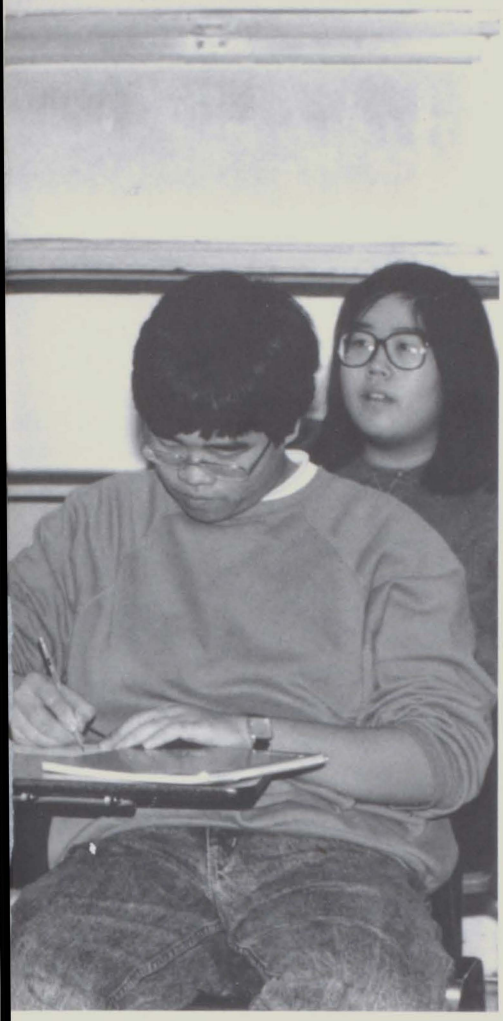


Learning the basics, ESL students in Beginning English class take notes as Ms. Grace Risetto reads to them. *Front Row:* freshmen Marjorie Anaya (Peru) and Andy Zheng (China). *Back Row:* freshmen Mariel Goyonaga (Bolivia) and Karen Zheng (China).

Below, Basic Skills student Ana Hernandez (El Salvador) gets special help from Ms. Sandra Johnson. Ms. Johnson helped Ana with classwork in all freshman subjects.



A serious topic. Ms. Florence Starzynsky, an Arlington Police lieutenant, speaks to ninth and tenth grade ESL students in driver's education. She was part of a multi-cultural approach to teaching ESL students how to deal with the police and to sensitize officers to deal with minorities.



A serious approach. Freshman Ingrid Stendbergh (Peru) carefully sketches with a pencil in Mr. John Ballou's Art I class. Individualized programs were avilable to ESL art students.

ESL Classes: Stepping Stones

A student's worse nightmare was being in a class and not understanding anything that was happening around him. For five percent of the students, the English language was strange if not incomprehensible. But students who found their way into ESL classes shared a similar goal: to become fluent in English. They had courage if not guts to tackle grammar, vocabulary and basic skills lessons throughout the day.

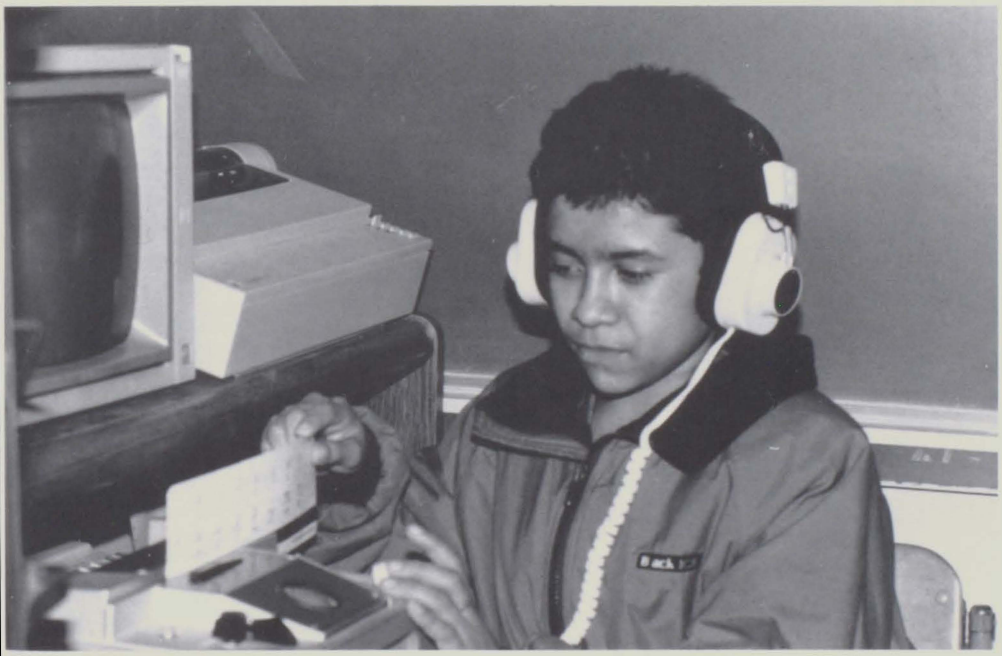
ESL classes became stepping stones for these students. Some moved ahead slowly; others caught on quickly. The ESL classes were established to meet the needs of students who needed extra help but could work at their own pace.

Senior Karla Goyonaga said, "I think the ESL classes are very good. You feel comfortable and more self-confident as you learn English."

Ms. Grace Risetto, department chairperson, explained the success of the classes: "They provide for the most important and academic needs of its students. They are a caring place where students feel they belong and can learn."

Seven countries were represented in the classes: Peru, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Paraguay, El Salvador, China and Vietnam.

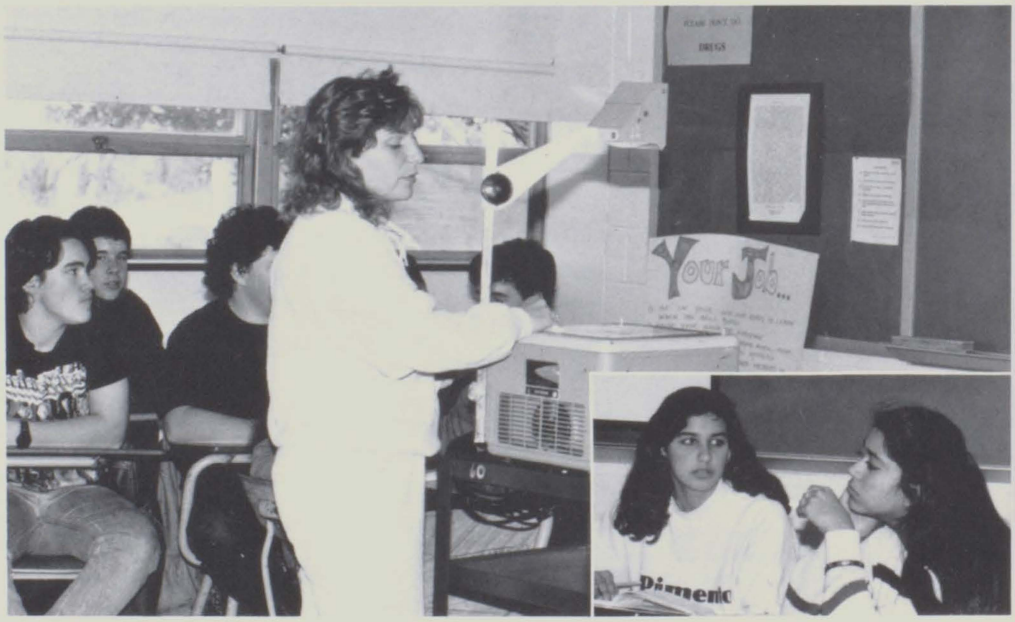
"George Mason is a small school. It happens to be the best school in the world."
- Norma Henriquez



Listening closely to instructions, Amilcar Diaz (El Salvador) uses the Language Master machine. During beginning English class Amilcar began using the machine in order to learn English letters and numbers up to one hundred as his personal goal. This approach was a successful part of the individualized ESL program to help its students who entered the school knowing no English.

"Family life is fun. You get to see what other people's opinions are and we learn about attitudes."

- Ann Seitz



Using the overhead projector, Ms. Peri Carlin prepares a lesson on environmental concerns in her ninth grade health class.

Teaming up, Ingrid Stenbergh and Olga Barrionuevo discuss issues is Ms. Carlin's class.

On the run. Freshman Maria Paljarvi takes the lead, followed by freshmen Trina Mangroo and Susan Phillips during a warm-up exercise in Physical Education I. Running laps was a popular activity.

Out in the cold. Mr. Jim Spirodopoulos supervises while his drivers education students check out his own car. *Following his directions,* sophomore Altagracia Espinal checks the oil.

The art of volleyball. Freshman Nathalie Gons prepares to serve during a game in Physical Education I, taught by Mr. Tony Green.

Freshman Jorge Umana (El Savador) returns the ball in a game against classmates.

P.E./Health: Not Just Play

True, you did get to run around and get physical in physical education class. And that was great fun. Freshmen in particular appreciated the change of pace offered. Chris Jones said, "P.E. isn't like a real class. You just play games."

Meg Wiant liked being able to unwind: "It's important to take P.E. so we can get all our energy out of our systems and be calm during the other classes."

Sophomore Brian Chong even went so far as to say, "I get to be free in P.E." Who could knock freedom?

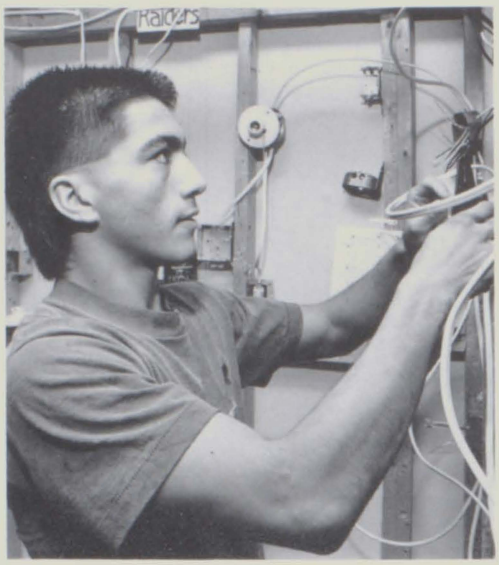
There was a lot more to the classes however. Student objectives were to stay in shape and learn about the human body. In other words, the classes were not "all play and no work."

Ninth graders learned how to give CPR. They also studied environmental health, consumerism and the causes of disease. Ninth and tenth graders took family life education which dealt with serious, mature topics such as sexuality and human development.

Driver's Education was the number one course in popularity for tenth graders. Lindsay Smith said, "It's an important class. With all the accidents going on today, it's important to be a good driver."

"In P.E. class you can run around and let all your aggressions out."
- Karen Jacomet

"The best part of my day is the Career Center. It's fun! Commercial art is something I enjoy, and I may go to art school."
- David Kelley



Right, junior Jose Hernandez, an electricity student, practices wiring a "room" during class at the Arlington Career Center.
Below, seniors Craig Sirkin and Justin Black go over the operation of a view camera in commercial photography class at the Arlington Career Center.

"The best part of my day is the Career Center. I enjoy the freedom!"
- Rubens Villamizar

A special moment. Senior Rachel Phelps listens to an extended day student describe her drawing in her Child Care II class, held at the Arlington Career Center.

With An Eye On The Future

"After graduation should I go to college, work or travel?"
"What do I want to do with my life?"
"What kind of work would I enjoy?"
"How can I make a lot of money?"

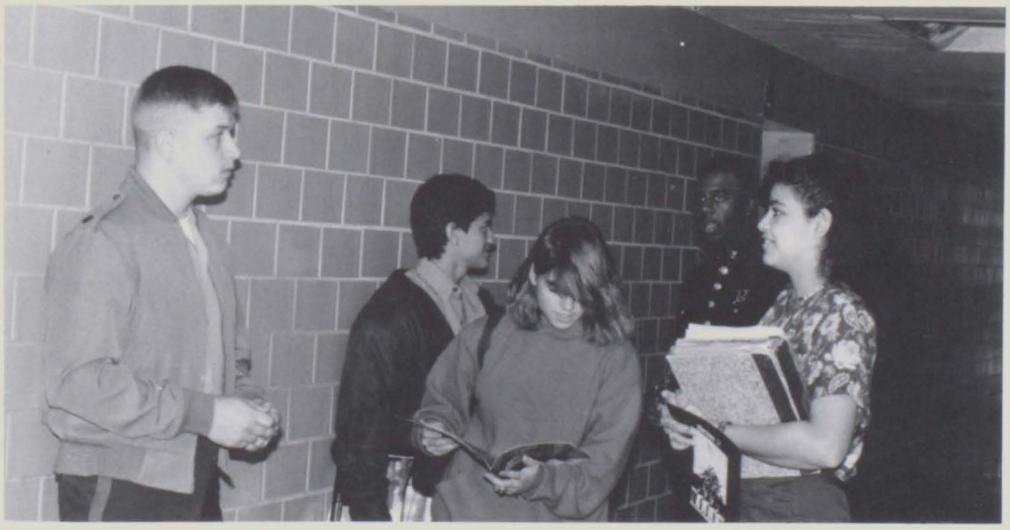
These were not simple questions, but they were popular ones among juniors and seniors. Students needed answers fast. Where could they go for guidance? Right. The Guidance Department in the main hallway.

Ms. Marilyn Anderson and Mr. John Moroney were two of the busiest people at George Mason. They assumed major responsibilities to help students make good choices about their lives. They became students' mentors and friends as they all sought answers to "heavy" questions about life after George Mason.

Increased enrollment in Arlington Career Center courses was a feather in the Guidance Department's hat. Thirty-six students took morning or afternoon courses there this year; eighty-five had signed up for next year by February. Students were bussed both ways, and the School Board budgetted for the tuition of $1,500 per student.

Ms. Anderson said, "We're so excited that so many students want to take advantage of the Center."

The Center gave students opportunities to tap their hidden talents and pursue interests.



Above left, commercial art instructor Michael Lahr (center) helps students Jerusha Burgess (senior) and David Kelley (junior) with a silk-screen assignment, taught at the Arlington Career Center.

Marine Corps opportunities. Sophomore Altagracia Espinal talks to SSGT L.J. Vanetten of the U.S. Marines during the College Fair while sophomore Elizabeth Sikkar looks at a brochure.

A close game. Eric Reimers looks to dish as Andrew Craig looks on, open for the shot in a January 25 game against Rappahannock. (G.M. won/64-62.)

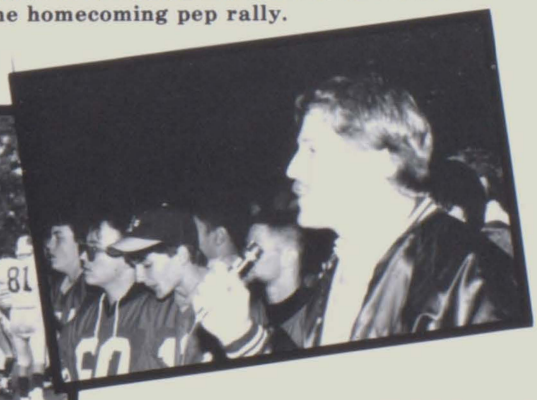
Mustang Sports

"We have a great sports program in general and a great athletic director," stated senior Andrew Craig, who participated in sports all four years.

George Mason was unique because despite its size, it offered all major sports at the junior varsity and varsity levels. Mustangs who chose not to belong to sports teams showed their spirit and supported the players by rooting for them at games and pep rallies.

Coaches became mentors and friends. They cared about players before, during and after all the games. Special relationships developed between coaches and teams. JV Girls' Basketball Coach Michael Malone said, "I think the real barometer of coaching comes at the end of the season when you look back and realize the hard work and dedication that each team member put into the program."

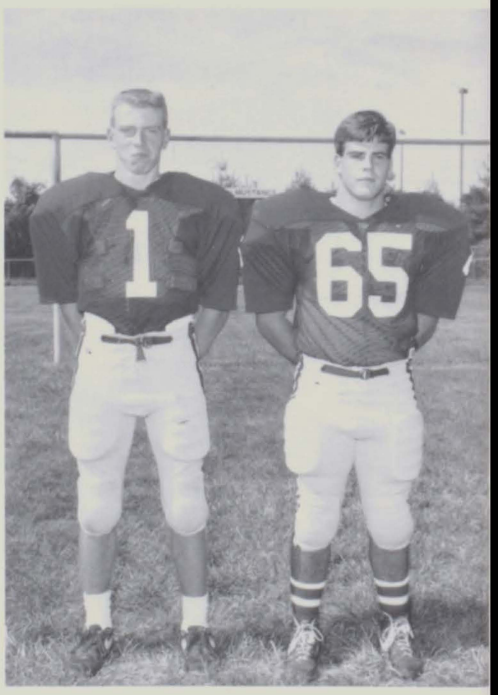
A heated moment. Sophomore Lindsay Smith and senior Carolina Naupari try to cut off baseline as Page County #10 brings the ball up court. Below: Junior Emily Hall cheers at the homecoming game; senior varsity football player Travis Herndon (#1) takes a break; JV Girls' Basketball Coach Mike Malone introduces his team at the homecoming pep rally.



"This season is the harvest of the fruits of two years of very, very hard labor."
- Coach Dale Dover
Boys' V. Basketball

Against the Panthers, Mason prepares to receive the ball, while Panthers try to block the pass. Andrew Craig and Chris Madison are on the court.

True entertainers. Varsity cheerleaders Liz Honesty, Stacy Russ and Katie Gray dance to the beat of Janet Jackson at a pep rally.



Showing Mustang pride, seniors Travis Lincoln (QB) and Zach Falter (DLM) pose for a formal shot at the end of the varsity football season.

"Awesome! Football is great. It's just plain fun!"
- Travis Lincoln

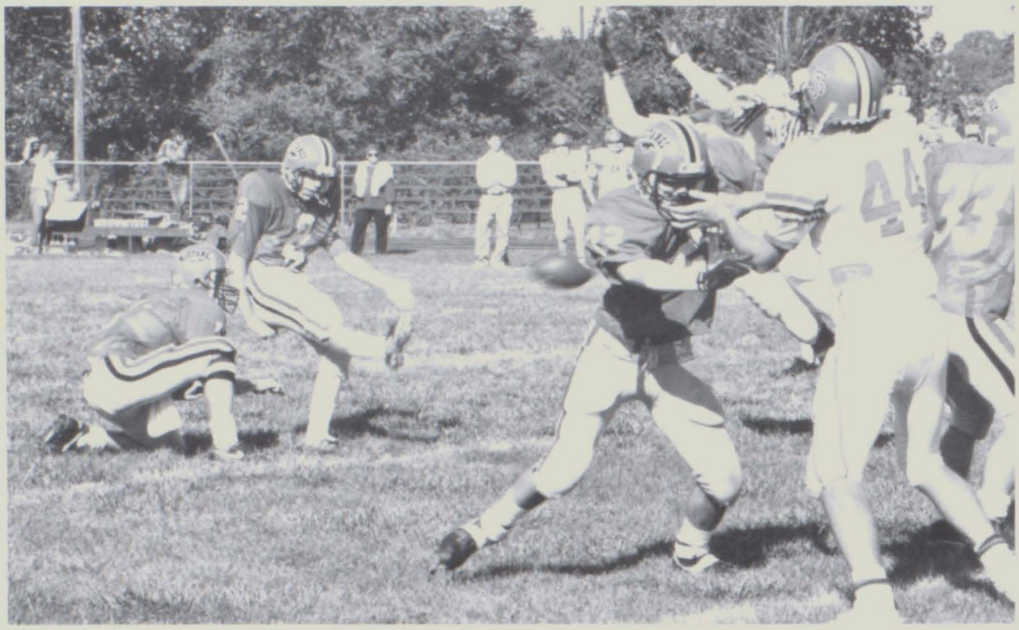
"Participating in sports taught me to work better with others as a team."
- Sheryl Whitaker

"Playing sports has kept me active. It gets rid of excess energy."
- Andrew Burk

"Competition through sports is good. It brings out our best skills."
- Vicki Spevacek

Chris Dietz (#24) goes high for a pass in a junior varsity game against Brentsville.

Below, All-District kicker Andrew Craig (#2) makes an extra point against Stonewall Jackson.

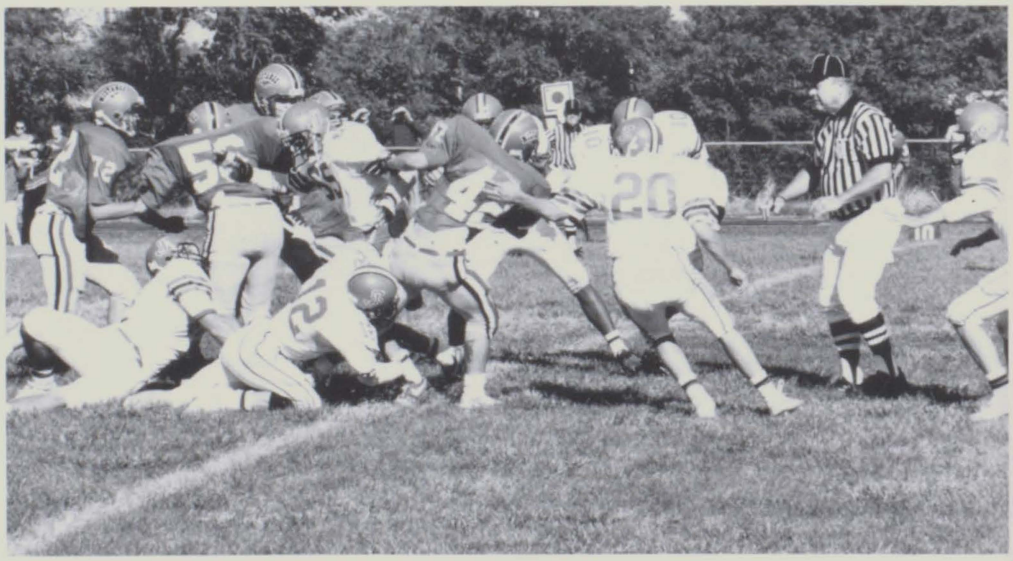


VARSITY FOOTBALL

Bishop Ireton	21-12
Paul VI	6-7
Sidwell Friend	25-6
Central	27-26
Manassas Park	14-20
Brentsville	13-7
Stonewall Jackson	23-0
Strasburg	29-37
Page County	22-14
Clarke County	0-28

FOOTBALL TEAM: Front Row: Jose Narvaez, Peter Johnson, Enio Aguilar, David Robles, Kellen Tasker, Peter Oh, Mike Mohajeri, John Schutte, Seth Kingsley, Forrest McGhee, Chad Jackson. *Second Row:* Asst. Coach Mark Fredenburg, Andrew Craig, Rob Rosholt, Chris Dietz, John Pitfido, Tu Wright, Zach Falter, Travis Lincoln, Sean Fair, Andrew Swift, Rich Martin, John Rodriguez, Broderick Brady, Asst. Coach Dave Boley. *Back Row:* Head Coach Lou Sorrentino, Robbie Sensabaugh, Matt Fulwiler, Mike Noyes, Adam Stoffel, Marquis Tinner, Lance Guckenberger, Eric Fellman, Roberto Espinal, Josh McCall, Jeff Anderson, David Shealy, Troy Austin, Asst. Coach Tony Green.

At right, senior John Pitfido (#42) stretches ahead for a gain in the homecoming win against Stonewall Jackson (23-0).



Heading For The Top

When asked to describe what he would remember most about his senior year, quarterback Travis Lincoln left his sentiments in one word: "Football."

This was the feeling of many students as football continued its steady climb to the top of the Bull Run District with its second play-off berth in two years.

The season ended with unfortunate injuries to Lincoln and leading rusher John Pitfido just before the first round play-off game against division rival Strasburg. The shorthanded Mustangs played a tough game, but the game began to get out of control when quarterback Lance Guckenberger filled in for Lincoln. The result was a 24-7 Strasburg win.

Although the Mustangs misfired in the playoffs, they provided one of the most exciting games in Mason history on the way to compiling a 6-4 regular season record.

On a warm, sunny day in mid-season they were scheduled to play division rival Central. The first three quarters went poorly. They couldn't provide an offensive spark on their own, but in the fourth quarter with ten minutes left in the game time was running out. Lincoln then headed one of the best comebacks in Mason history. The score was 26-7 at that point.

Pitfido's running and frequent passing connections between Lincoln and receiver Josh McCall brought Mason two more touchdowns. Another touchdown in the last two minutes brought Mason a one point win over Central (27-26).

This year may have marked a new era for the football team. They felt ready to challenge the best in their division and region. Senior lineman and four year team member Zach Falter said, "The progress we've made in four years is amazing. If the team continues at this pace, Mason will be a dominant football force in the future."

Upper left, tailback Peter Oh (#30) is stopped downfield on a sweep play against Sidwell Friends. *At left, #42* John Pitfido makes a break downfield behind Rick Martin's blocking. (Photographer: Junior John Blackwell)

Moving fast, freshman Vicky Spevacek takes the ball downcourt against Page County. Vicky was voted "Most Outstanding Player."

In her fourth year of playing, junior guard Erin Stobo (#30) plays tough defense in the game against Page County.

GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL

Rappahannock	46-29
Strasburg	44-48
Broad Run	34-46
Clarke County	28-30
Stonewall Jackson	49-36
Central	36-58
Page County	31-51
Manassas Park	45-25
Stonewall Jackson	29-24
Rappahannock	50-42
Strasburg	36-56
Brentsville	50-32
Clarke County	35-26
Broad Run	38-47
Manassas Park	52-16
Central	34-66
Page County	30-44
Brentville	48-33

DISTRICT TOURNAMENT

Clarke County	45-27
Central	26-63

At left, senior Sasha Day lays the ball in for two points in the October 30 game against Page County played at Mason.

Below, sophomore Lindsay Smith (#32) fires a pass downfield against Page County. Carolina Naupari and Erin Stobo come up court.

Positive Vibrations

The girls' basketball team found a new spirit this season under new Head Coach Lori McConnell. "Our new coach was great!" said senior center Carolina Naupari. She added, "She really made a difference to us. The team responded positively."

In fact, they responded with a 10-8 season record, and a 10-10 overall record. It was lead by two seniors (Carolina Naupari and Sasha Day) and a high-scoring freshman (Vicky Spevacek). The inside threat presented by Day and Naupari combined with the outside threat of Spevacek and other guards like Lindsay Smith and Chris Rosholt overwhelmed many teams as they occasionally dominated district play.

The team made it as far as the District semi-final, but, according to Sasha Day, "We were up against a really tough team (Central High), and unfortunately we weren't able to keep up."

Most members, however, saw this season as one of the best they ever had. Junior Erin Stobo said, "This was our best season. Our coach really motivated us and encouraged us. We had a great time."

It was that new attitude that made the difference in their estimation of the season, best exemplified in the institution of a tradition: a team dinner at someone's house before every game.

It also meant a new creation of a team out of outstanding original talent that was new to most players. Carolina Naupari said, "We had never before been so together as a team. It made a difference."

The team sensed those positive vibrations for the entire season.

Upper left, Sasha Day looks for a pass over the defense. (Sasha won the "Most Spirited" trophy.)

GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM: Front Row: Manager Kim Stobo, Erin Stobo, Jessica Menendez, Lindsay Smith, Alison Newlove, Kate Fletcher, Manager Stacy Rosholt. *Back Row:* Coach Lori McConnell, Bridget Singletary, Megan Noyes, Sasha Day, Chris Rosholt, Carolina Naupari, Vicky Spevacek.

Number 14, freshman Denar Antelo attempts to recover the ball in a junior varsity home game.

Number 18, senior Andrew Craig dribbles the ball down the field. He received the "Most Outstanding Player" trophy for boys' soccer.

Number 2, junior Josh Kingsley traps the ball during a junior varsity home game.

BOYS' VARSITY SOCCER

German School	0-0
Rappahannock	7-1
Ballou	7-0
Episcopal	1-2
Eastern Mennonite	0-2
Rappahannock	5-0
Washington International	0-1
Palloti	3-3
French International	1-3
ISA	2-0
St. Stephens	2-0

LEAGUE TOURNAMENT

Carrol	4-1
Palloti	3-4

Number 20, senior Eric Reimers prepares to kick the ball.

BOYS' VARSITY SOCCER TEAM: Front Row: Jonathan Dietz, Pat Thomas, Fernando Jordan, Roget Bryan, Adam Jarrett, Jose Hernandez, Jorge Umana, Paul Bailey. *Back Row:* Coach Arturo Himinez, Jorge Hernandez, Andrew Craig, Josh Leachman, Dan Salsbury, Eric Reimers, Andrew Burk, Allen Scully, Rob Rosholt, Tri Thai.

Success At Its Best

After an off season the previous year, the boys' soccer team moved down one division. It turned out to be a beneficial move for the team as they compiled a league record of 7-1 against teams that were almost invariably from school much larger than Mason. The team's overall record was 9-5-2. They finished the season with a loss to Palotti in the semi-final round of the B League Soccer Tournament.

Senior Andrew Craig said, "Against Palloti I don't think we had enough enthusiasm, even though we played well as a team."

An unusual five members of the team were named to the league's all-star team. They were seniors Andrew Burk, Andrew Craig and Eric Reimers, and juniors Adam Jarrett and Jose Hernandez. The excellent individual talent on the team wasn't the only factor leading to the team's success. They were also led by a new coach, Arturo Himenez.

Senior forward Allen Scully said, "Coach Himenez was really intent on making a winning team of us, but he also wanted us to have a good time. We ended up doing both."

The team was characterized by outstanding overall balance and experience. It could create a powerful offensive attack with veteran players Craig, Burk and Hernandez. Their balance then showed when their defense was challenged. Jarrett as goalkeeper and Reimers at the stopper position made for a powerful Mason defense that shut out or held to one goal many strong teams.

This experience and balance were best shown in the league tournament game against Carroll, a physically larger team that Mason dominated on all facets of the game through finesse.

Upper left, junior Jonathan Dietz runs hard to get control of the ball.

BOYS' JUNIOR VARSITY SOCCER TEAM: Front Row: Richard Hartogs, Ben Viccellio, Trent Templer, Michael Murchie, Jeremy O'Hara, David Ventura, Matt Degnan, David Hartogs. *Back Row:* Coach Jim Chandler, Jonathan Shaw, Josh Jarrett, Denar Antelo, Norman Lipps, Luis Sorto, Ben Bowyer, Bernie Hernandez.

At right, junior Marie Connaughton moves around a defender from Washington International in a game we won. (5-0)

Below, sophomore Isabel Meng attempts to turn the ball upfield.

GIRLS' VARSITY SOCCER

Bishop Ireton	0-4
Field School	3-0
Jewish Day'	3-2
Washington Int'l.	5-0
Wilson	0-2
Flint Hill	1-0
Bishop Ireton	1-0
Potomac	2-1
Edmond Burke	3-0
Washington Int'l.	5-0
Wilson	1-0
Flint Hill	0-1
Georgetown Day	1-0

Making headway, sophomore Liz Sikkar prepares to kick the ball upfield.

GIRLS' VARSITY SOCCER TEAM: Front Row: Laura Bain, Leona Bienia, Liz Sikkar, Molly Henneberg ("Most Spirited Player"), Suzanne Eggleton, Heather McGavin, Marie Noelle Connaughton, Isabel Meng. *Back Row:* Coach John Kalepp, Chris Walsh, Marcia Longo, Cristin Brew, Amy Gons, Katherine Temple, Eugenia Leachman, Sarah Robinson ("Most Improved Player"), Adriana Anderson, Lisa Menendez, Stephanie Jones.

Turning It Around

The girls' soccer team continued its climb to the top in 1990 with a 10-3-1 record, its best ever. This year completed an amazing five-year turnaround for the team. They went from a team that scored only one goal all year to having one of the best records in the school.

This upsurge in record led to an unprecedented interest in girls' soccer among the student population. On an average home game, the outside bleachers were often filled to capacity with Mustangs eager to cheer the team on.

The team was led by three seniors: Lisa Menendez, Heather McGavin and Molly Henneberg. They pooled their talents to provide a strong offensive attack that often chalked up four or five goals a game. The best attribute of the team, however, wasn't necessarily the top scorers.

According to Heather McGavin, it was their depth: "We had good depth in our team. We never had to be afraid to use someone on the bench. We knew everyone could do the job."

With the great improvement in the program, it seemed ironic that they were still looking for a league to play in so they could attend postseason tournament and compete for a title. Molly Henneberg said, "Coach Kalepp has tried really hard to get us into a league, but most already have eight teams and don't need a ninth." Regardless of postseason play, the team reached a landmark in record and recognition. With the depth of young players, the team expected to have winning subsequent seasons. They proved they could turn things around!

Upper left senior Heather McGavin ("Most Outstanding Player") tries to beat the defender to the ball.

GIRLS' JUNIOR VARSITY SOCCER TEAM: Front Row: Dinah Moore, Juliana Roa, Mary Kate Brousseau, Stacey Mize, Adrienne Sedei. *Back Row:* Coach John Kalepp, Marisabel Suarez, Sarah Barber, Lydia Doleman, Simone Krembs, Toni Fitzgerald.

At right, senior Heather McGavin works hard on a hill. (Heather was a Regional B Champion Runner.) *Below,* junior Chris Madison passes a Strasburg runner for a great finish.

CROSS COUNTRY	*We They*
Paul Vi & Bishop Ireton	82-22/34
Manassas Park at Rappahannock	28-F /27
Brentsville and Manassas Park	24-31/F
Clarke County at Central	73-44/20
Rappahannock, Manassas Park and Quantico	57-38/73
Strasburg at Stonewall Jackson	80-49/15
Clarke County	39-21

Making headway. The girls' team runners make great split times. *From left:* Suzanne Eggleton, Marisabel Suarez, Heather McGavin (up front), Pilar Viccellio, Debbie Cory, Cindy Wilson. (Cindy Wilson was also a Regional B Champion Runner.)

Building Interest

Low participation stemming from a combination of factors continued to be a thorn in the side of the cross country team. For one, many students simply went out for other fall sports. Also, Mason's small size was a handicap.

The squad had outstanding individual talent, but it failed to eclipse the .500 mark as a team. The team was led by girls' team runners Cindy Wilson and Heather McGavin (both seniors) and the boys' team runners David Douglass (a sophomore) and Jason Robertson (a junior).

The team often had to augment its regular roster with volunteers from the girls' and boys' soccer teams. Among those part-time runners was Heather McGavin, who placed on both teams in regional competition. She placed 27th in the Region B Championship race. The only other Mason runner to place was Cindy Wilson, at 29th.

The primary need for the team was to stir up interest in it as a sport. Cindy said, "When I started running cross country five years ago, I only wanted to be on a fall sports team and get in shape. But I like the people so much as well as the sport that I began to like it for its team and the competitive aspects as well."

Coach Robert Snee hoped that the team would gain in popularity and that more students would give it a chance.

Freshman Chris Yates, a second year runner, said, "I really enjoy being a member of this team. It's a lot of fun as well as challenging and rewarding."

Upper left, Captain David Douglass (sophomore) sprints to the finish. (He received the "Most Spirited Runner" trophy.)

CROSS COUNTRY TEAM: Front Row: Heather McGavin, Debbie Cory, Cristina Suarez-Torres, Marisabel Suarez, Matt Droujinsky, Tenneal Beale, Colleen Lansdown. *Back Row:* Suzanne Eggleton, Chris Madison ("Most Improved Runner"), David Douglass, Michael Betz, Captain Cindy Wilson ("Most Outstanding Runner"), Pilar Viccellio, Allan Schneider, Chris Yates, Coach Robert Snee, Manager Margaret Muller.

Stretching out. Varsity cheerleaders of the fall squad pep up the Mustangs at a home basketball game. *From left:* Captain Liz Honesty, Susanne Hill, Medena Small, Janna Lukomski.

A homecoming cheer. During the second quarter of the game against Stonewall Jackson, junior Katie Gray and senior Liz Honesty complete an impressive cheer, supported by varsity cheerleaders.

A crowd pleaser. Varsity cheerleaders line up to do a favorite dance-cheer at the February 1 pep rally to honor winter athletes.

Varsity Cheerleaders: Row One: Medena Small and Captain Liz Honesty. *Row Two:* Tamara Droujinsky, Coach Patti Scheunemann, Katie Gray. *Back Row:* Margaret Bryant, Mandy Riedel, Janna Lukomski, Susanne Hill, Emily Hall, Stacy Russ, Beth Cory.

JV turned varsity cheerleader. Dr. George Thoms congratulates sophomore Margaret Bryant at the December 3 Fall Sports Awards Program.

In Their Blood

No one forced them to be spirit rousers. No one insisted that they work out about every day from July through February. Cheerleading was "in their blood!" They just had to do it.

Varsity cheerleaders took their long and tiring practices seriously. When other Mustangs were at the beach, they were at the Universal Cheerleading Association Camp at Towson State University in Maryland. There they learned routines that entertained Mustang crowds throughout the school year. A favorite was the dance done to a Janet Jackson mix, which won them a gold medal in the competitions.

Cheers, chants, jumps, stunts, and pompom tosses fired up and energized crowds at pep rallies and games during the fall and winter seasons. Mustangs appreciated the efforts of the cheerleaders.

Junior Varsity cheerleaders had it "in their blood" also. The cheerleading bug bit them in eighth grade! Diana Dinerman, freshman, was the JV captain. She said, "You have to drop everything to be a cheerleader, but it's fun." Freshman Samantha Petrich added, "Cheerleading takes everything!"

Whatever it took, Mustang cheerleaders succeeded in winning the hearts of everybody.

Upper left. JV captain Diana Dinerman, freshman, does the split with the help of JV cheerleaders at the February 1 pep rally.
Above, freshman Samantha Petrich gets the middle school section to cheer at the pep rally.
Junior Varsity Cheerleaders: Front Row: Sara Baldino and Samantha Petrich (Asst. to Captain). *Second Row:* Danielle Yoder, Meghan Tierney, Captain Diana Dinerman. *Back Row:* Shanti Heffern, Kristi Fishere, Coach Patti Scheunemann, Amie Camden, Colleen Landsown.

BOYS' VARSITY BASKETBALL: Front Row: Dan Salsbury, David Garrison ("Most Spirited Player"), Pat Thomas, Co-Captain Andrew Craig, Marquis Tinner, David Douglass. *Back Row:* Josh Kingsley, Eric Fellman, Bill Singletary, Co-Captain Eric Reimers (All District Team player), Brian Sullivan, Chris Madison, Peter Murchie (All District Team player), *Coach* Dale Dover.

Above, #10 junior Josh Kingsley sets up for a free throw.

At right, sophomore Josh McCall goes up for a lay-up.

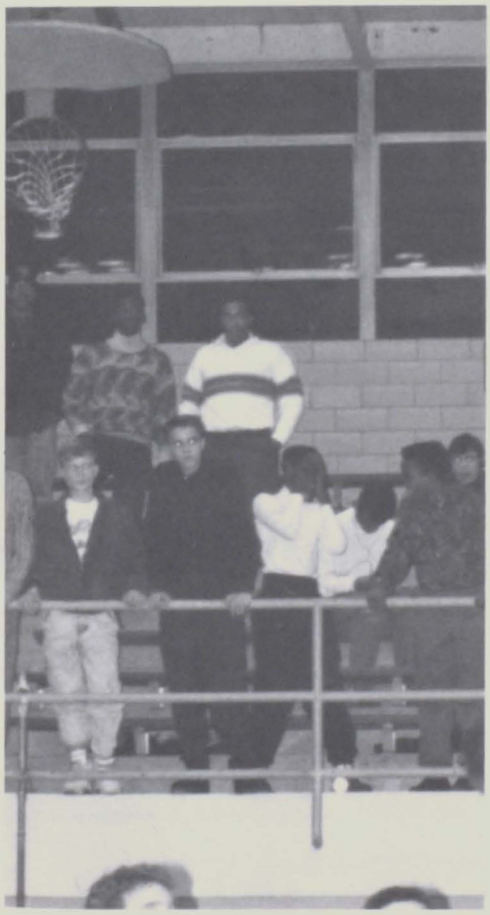
(The team consisted of two seniors, ten juniors, and two sophomores.)

At left, (#50) senior Eric Reimers receives an inbound pass from junior Chris Madison (#32). Eric was a co-captain of the team.

During a home game against the Panthers, Chris Madison goes for a baseline jumper.

Below, against Model School senior Andrew Craig (#20) goes for a short jumper. (Andrew received the "Most Outstanding Playmaker" trophy.)

A Perfect Match



Some people tried to take the basketball team as a novelty. Under the lights of a local news station and the inquiries of local papers, all known authorities explained again and again that Coach Dale Dover was, indeed, also the Mayor of Falls Church. The team and coach, however, certainly rose above novelty to catch the eyes of skeptics.

Dover instilled in the team a blend of intelligent offense and an uncompromising defense to lay to rest all but the very best challengers. A prime example was Brentsville. When they arrived in the Mason gym for a home game, they didn't look much different than Mason, physically. Soon after the tip-off, it became evident that there was a huge difference.

Smart passing inside to Bill Singletary ("Most Improved Player") and Eric Reimers ("Most Outstanding Player") cut apart the Brentsville defense, while at the other end the defense denied Brentsville any space inside the three point line.

As the first helf drew to a close, Mason led by the incredible score of 32-9. The first half proved not to be a fluke, as Mason poured on more of the same, embarrassing the rival school.

As the game drew to a close in the final minutes, the crowd started a sympathy cry of "Twenty, twenty . . ." for the opposing team. They eventually did get twenty, but Mason still more than doubled their opponent's score, 74-32.

The team then went into the Bull Run District Tournament with a first round match against a Page County team that had beaten them twice already by narrow margins. It was another close game as they lost in the first round, bowing out with pride in their accomplishments.

The team may have looked as if they had something to prove, but they knew they had what it took. Eric Reimers, a senior and the team captain, said, "We knew we were no pushovers, and that neither were the other teams in the district. We knew that to succeed we would all have to play to the best of our ability, and we did so."

With a coach promising to put nothing over the team, not even the city government, and with players willing to give their best, the team succeeded. It was a perfect match!

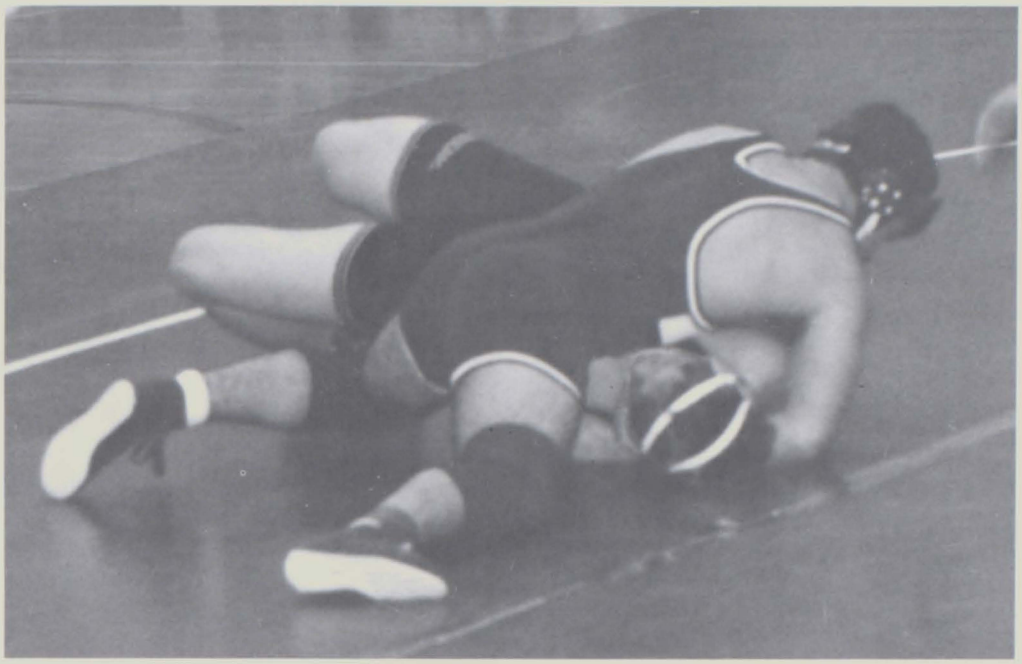
VARSITY WRESTLING TEAM: Front Row: Aaron Smith, José Hernandez, Pablo Flores, Bernaldo Hernandez, Gavin Hecker, José Chaves. *Back Row:* Coach Mark Fredenburg, John Schutte, José Sorto, Lance Guckenberger, Zach Falter, Sverre Gronlie, Manager Alyssa Wilson, Manager Susan Stitt.

Second year wrestler, sophomore Lance Guckenberger puts his opponent on his back as he looks for a pinning combination.

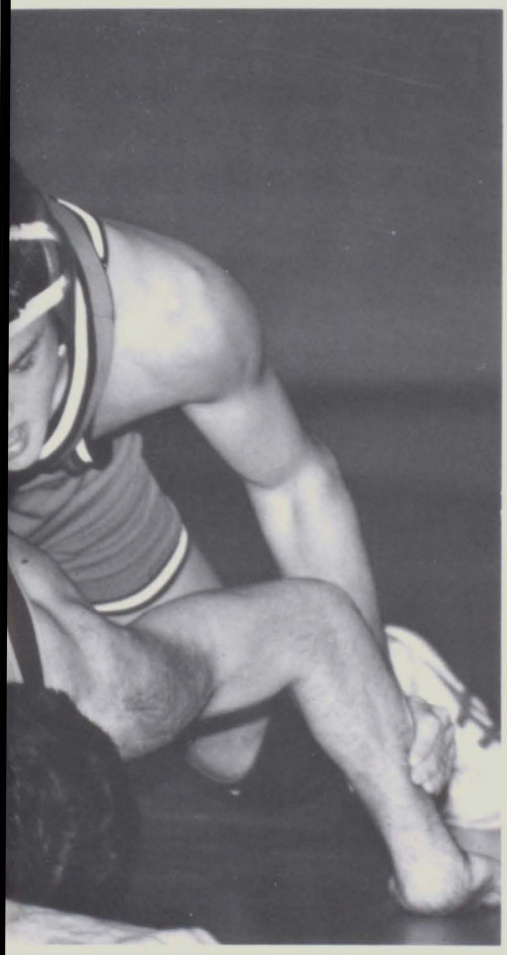
At right, sophomore Gavin Hecker ("Most Improved Wrestler") works from the top to break down his opponent.

"Most Outstanding Wrestler," senior Andrew Burk attempts to put his opponent into a cradle and on his back.

During the first round, senior Zach Falter pins his opponent. Zach was awarded the "Most Spirited Wrestler" trophy at the Winter Sports Program.



Fruits Of Their Labor



Wrestling more than anything else is a game of experience. There is a definite method that must be learned so that it can be applied in the brutal ballet of the match itself. Just to survive the first period, participants need to know enough moves to successfully counter any of the dozens of moves that opponents might throw at them. They also need to avoid being taken down or pinned.

The factor of experience was to be the greatest obstacle to overcome for the team. There were only two seniors, Andrew Burk and Zach Falter, and one junior, José Hernandez, who taught the young wrestlers the knowledge they had accrued through the years of wrestling.

Zach Falter said, "Wrestling may look like an indiscriminate attempt to beat up your opponent, but it is actually a series of complicated moves that you have to execute better than your opponent. And that is learned only after a few years."

An astounding five members of the relatively inexperienced team were able to beat the odds. They combined those moves well enough to make it to the final event, the state tournament.

Andrew Burk, Zach Falter, José Hernandez, Aaron Smith and Lance Guckenberger all had to move to propel them to the tournament. Burk make it in the most dramatic fashion. After winning districts, he moved on to the larger and tougher regional competition. There he pulled off a dramatic first place finish to be named the very best in the region! He reached the top.

The regional win assured a first seed in the state championship and a shot at the title. At the State Championship, Burk became involved in a match that could define state champion. It was at a near standstill until the very end of the second period when Burk made a mistake. He was pinned by the eventual state champion, leaving Burk with a hard-earned fifth place.

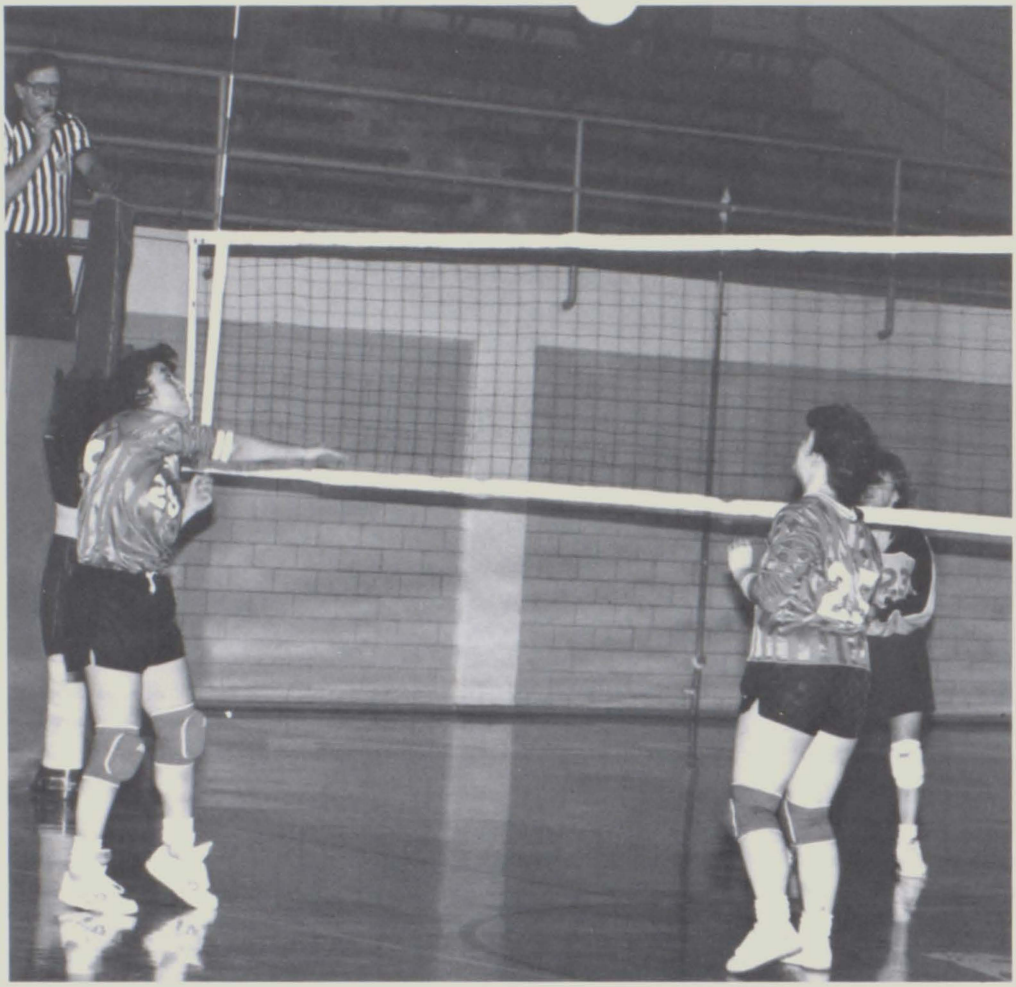
The knowledge given by the more experienced wrestlers would be an important link in the making of champions from freshman and rookie wrestlers. Burk said, "There are some great wrestlers that will reach their peak in a few years." In other words, like Burk, they'd reach the top.

The wrestlers felt the accomplishment of one-on-one battle with no one else to challenge or blame but themselves.

Below, #29 senior Carolina Naupari bumps the ball over the net in a home match.

Below right, #18 senior Kunnareath Tauch gets set for an overhand serve.

Right, "Most Improved Player" Thu Do, a senior, bumps the ball up to her teammates in the front-court.



VARSITY VOLLEYBALL: Front Row: Kay Eister, Elena Roa, Jennifer Preston ("Most Spirited Player"), Rachna Tauch, Sonia Escheveria. *Back Row:* Coach Theresa Doherty, Manager Elizabeth Martin, Kunnareath Tauch, Sheryl Whitaker ("Most Outstanding Player"), Carolina Naupari, Amy Gons, Margaret Wiant, Coach Al Krueger, Coach Judith Knoke.

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Pre-season Tournament:
Rappahannock (W) 15-7; 15-5
Manassas Park (W) 15-6; 14-4
Brentsville (W) 15-12; 13-13
Broad Run (L) 15-4; 13-15; 15-5
Brentsville (W) 6-15; 15-7; 15-6
Manassas Park (W) 15-4; 15-8
Page County (L) 15-5; 15-12
Broad Run (L) 15-11; 15-6
Rappahannock (L) 15-12; 9-15; 15-10
Strasburg (L) 15-10; 15; 10
Stonewall Jackson (W) 15-8; 15-12
Manassas Park (W) 15-5; 15-11
Clarke County (W) 15-1; 15-8
Central (L) 15-13; 15; 15-4

District Tournament:
Page County (L) 15-12; 15; 15-7

Taking A High Profile

The girls' volleyball team was short this year, in more ways than one. They only had ten players on the squad. In addition, they were without a doubt the smallest team in stature in the Bull Run District, averaging little over five foot a person.

In a sport where height was a huge advantage, the Mustangs needed a big heart to overcome their physical shortcomings. So much of the game was spent trying to reach higher over the net than their opponent.

Coaches Krueger and Knoke developed a playing style that made the most of their team's talents while protecting them from the spikes that other teams tried to rain down on them. That meant that they were a strongly defensive team.

As Mr. Krueger said, "We were probably the best defensive team in the district." The Mustangs' defense and a surprising offensive capability helped them gain an 11-7 record in one of the toughest districts in the state.

Krueger found that they were extremely talented and well balanced in the back court, as they had several experienced and talented setters and hitters, such as all-district player Sheryl Whitaker.

In order to pack a real knockout scoring power, however, they needed good spikers up front, such as Kunnareath Tauch and Elena Roa, who could leap remarkably high.

In the district tournament the Mustangs found themselves up against perennial powerhouse Page County, the defending state champions. The chances given were slim. Just minutes after the opening whistle had blown, Mason had a 6-0 lead. Unfortunately, Page County's height and power won out.

Coach Krueger summed up the year by saying, "A desire to win and to do what's best for the team was our motivation in what we did."

#25 senior Sheryl Whitaker bumps the ball in the air in preparation for a spike by a teammate.

Against Rappahannock, sophomore Peter Oh brings the ball up court during the January 25 game.

Against Page County, sophomore Karen Jacomet looks to pass the ball during the October 30 game.

Girls' JV Basketball (High School): freshman Laura Chaves, Coach Michael Malone, sophomore Karen Jacomet.

At left, sophomore David Douglass (varsity) guards against Rappahannock #55 as he works in for a better shot, while P. Dampier and S. Kingsley look on.

JV Wrestling Team: Front Row: J. Wilson, E. Stitt, J. Cushman, R. Hartogs, L. Sorto. *Back Row:* Coach M. Fredenburg, C. Burk, M. Droujinsky, J. Anderson, S. Macevoy, P. Bailey, N. Heller, Managers A. Wilson and S. Stitt.

Red and white hearts. JV Volleyball Captain Mercedes Heil helps organize the team and gives out valentine balloons at the February 1 pep rally. This pep rally honored all winter sports teams. Coach Theresa Doherty stands at the left.

JV Success

"I enjoy being on a team. It's a chance to be with my friends," said freshman Maria Paljarvi, JV volleyball team player.

JV SPORTS - an important Mustang concept. It meant commitment, hard work, late hours, team support and a lot more! Junior varsity sports were as important to their players as varsity sports were to older, more experienced players.

"My experiences running cross-country were challenging as well as rewarding," said freshman Chris Yates.

It was difficult enough to get used to high school and its demands. To take on added responsibilities of being a team player proved that the true Mustang spirit started early.

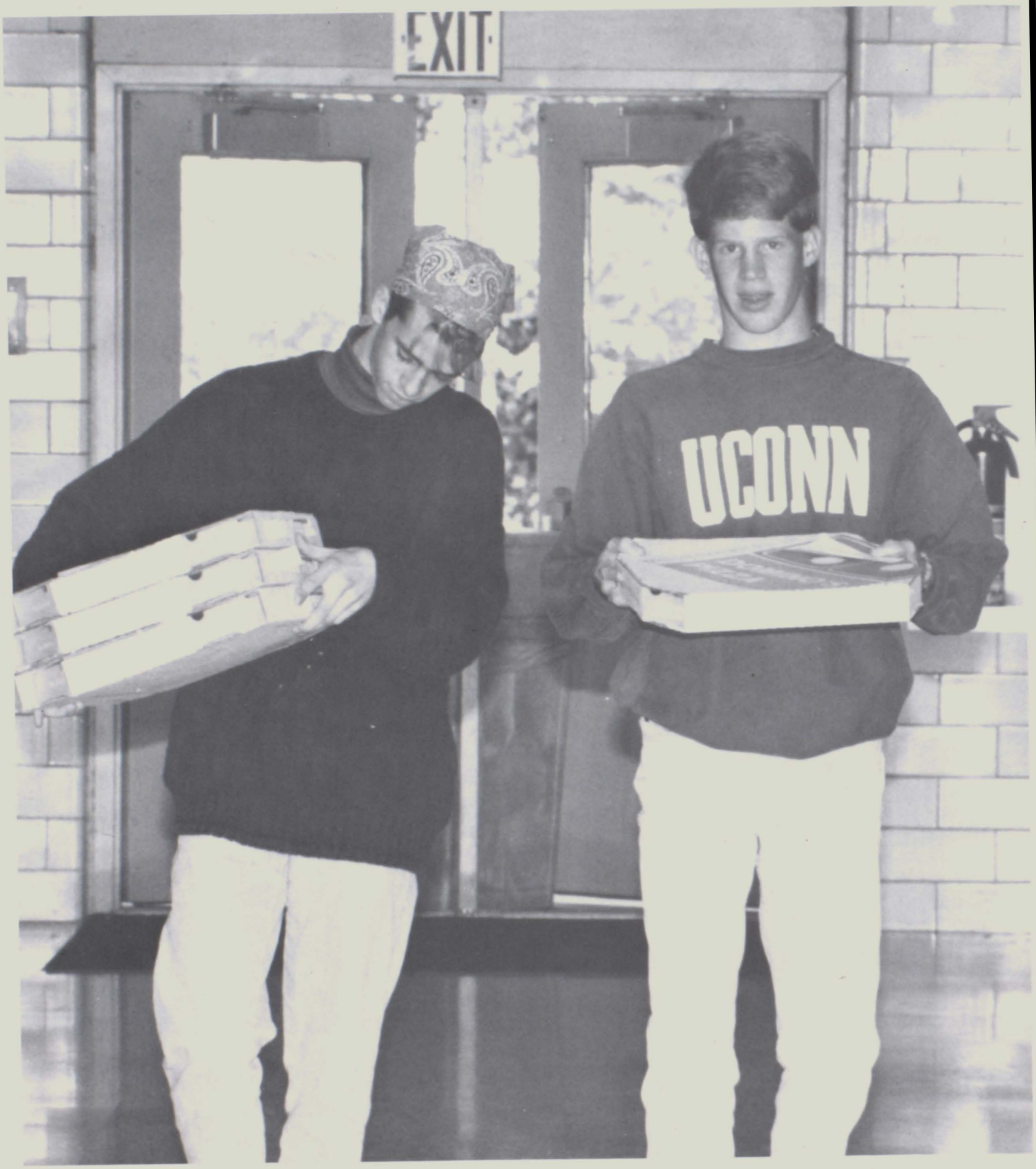
Freshman Liv Nordin, a soccer player, said, "A JV team is a good way to get to know more people and work on your own skills." Freshman Amie Camden, a cheerleader, added, "It's fun to be a part of sports. You can visit schools and meet other students."

Freshman football player Chris Dietz said, "The coaches and teams are making the other schools notice us in sports." He and other junior varsity players felt great about what happened when JV teams showed up to play.

Boys' JV Basketball Team: Row One: J. O'Hara, T. Templer, M. Murchie, N. Martin, P. Oh, A. Hartman, M. Degnan. *Back Row:* Coach Jim Chandler, G. McNeil, B. Bowyer, S. Kingsley, P. Dampier, O. Revel, P. Whichard, A. Turner, S. Atabaki.

JV Volleyball Team: Front Row: M. Wiant, M. Yeary, K. McDonald. *Second Row:* Coach T. Doherty, M. Paljarvi, C. Hunt, C. Bautista, E. Farbman, G. Chae, L. Smith, O. Barrionuevo. *Back Row:* Asst. Coach A. Krueger, N. Gons, L. Doleman, B. Opal, M. Heil, D. Ibanez, S. Barber, K. Anderson, Coach J. Knoke. (Captains were Mercedes Heil and Maria Paljarvi.)

A celebration. Seniors Andy Hunt and Andrew Burk carry pizzas from Domino's to Mr. Michael Hoover's room to celebrate the *Lasso's* first issue (10/19).



Unmistakably

Mustang Organizations

"I really enjoy being a part of the Stage Crew. I have learned a lot about things I've never seen or heard about before," said freshman Moji Ojumu.

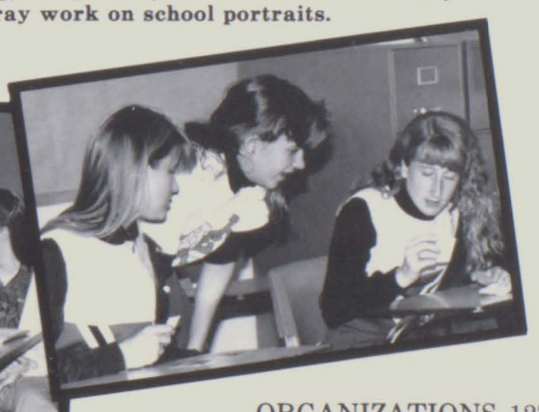
Her comment reflected the attitude of enthusiastic, involved Mustangs who joined various organizations in the fall.

A small student body did not mean Mustangs were deprived of activities available at larger schools. In fact, Mustangs could join such unique activities as the Ecology Club or Jazz Band.

The various teams were grouped under six major categories: The Governing team, The Academic Team, The Publications Team, The Club Team, The Special Activity Team and The Athletic Team.

Sara Brock, active in Student Council, Drama, and Forensics, stated that "a great challenge is keeping up with schoolwork while wanting to belong to a lot of activities." It was a challenge that many Mustangs accepted.

Dr. George Thoms gives junior Reid Hecker a firm handshake at the NHS Induction Ceremony on October 10. Below: sophomore Tamara Droujinsky rehearses for the Annual Winter Choral Concert; Student Council members John Yates, Aaron Spevacek and Megan Noyes chair a meeting; Stacy Russ, Amie Camden and Katey Gray work on school portraits.



A standing ovation. Junior boys stand up and cheer during the January 30 Student Council Open Forum. Students were allowed to voice their opinions regarding school policies. *Inset picture:* Senior Paul Dunn voices his opinion regarding the smoking policy.

At right, Junior Class President Stephanie Jones expresses her feelings regarding students' needs to learn more about Middle-Eastern cultures.

Getting Involved

"Aaron Spevacek does a really good job as Student Council president. He listens to everyone's opinion," said sophomore Eugenia Leachman, sophomore class secretary. Aaron, a senior, encouraged an open-door policy regarding communication among students, faculty, administration, parents and the community.

Why was this year's Student Council so effective? Because they got involved. They didn't turn their heads and say, "That's someone else's problem." Co-sponsors Ms. Erin Albright and Ms. Anna Kibble helped them organize meetings and forums that included all interested students. You didn't have to be a member to make a difference.

All issues were important from stall doors in boys' bathrooms to less greasy school food. Main projects were updating the Student Handbook and supporting a worthwhile organization. Junior John Yates, vice-president, addressed the student body at the January 30 open forum by saying, "We have tried very hard to increase the participation of all our students."

THE GOVERNING TEAM: (SENIORS) - Row One: Zach Falter, rep.; John Pitfido, rep. *Back Row:* Alyssa Wilson, treasurer; Mitch Falter, secretary; Christy Ploch, vice-president; Sasha Day, president; Aaron Spevacek, Student Council president; Molly Henneberg.
(JUNIORS) - John Yates, S.C. vice-pres.; Emily Hall, treasurer; Natanya Barrow, rep.; Stephanie Jones, pres.; Chris Walsh, secretary; Megan Noyes, S.C. secretary-treasurer; Peter Murchie, vice-president.
(SOPHOMORES) - Row One: Margaret Bryant, rep.; Anu Gupta, president; Eugenia Leachman, secretary. *Back Row:* Ms. Anna Kibble, sponsor; Aaron Smith, rep.; Sherri Renfrow, treasurer; Amanda Riedel, vice-president.
(FRESHMEN) - Row One: Lauren Kramer-Dover, president; Sara Brock, secretary; Samantha Petrich, treasurer. *Back Row:* Co-sponsor Judy Knoke; Chris Parrish, rep.; Al Suarez, vice-president; Chris Yates, rep.; Co-sponsor Georgette Schaefer.

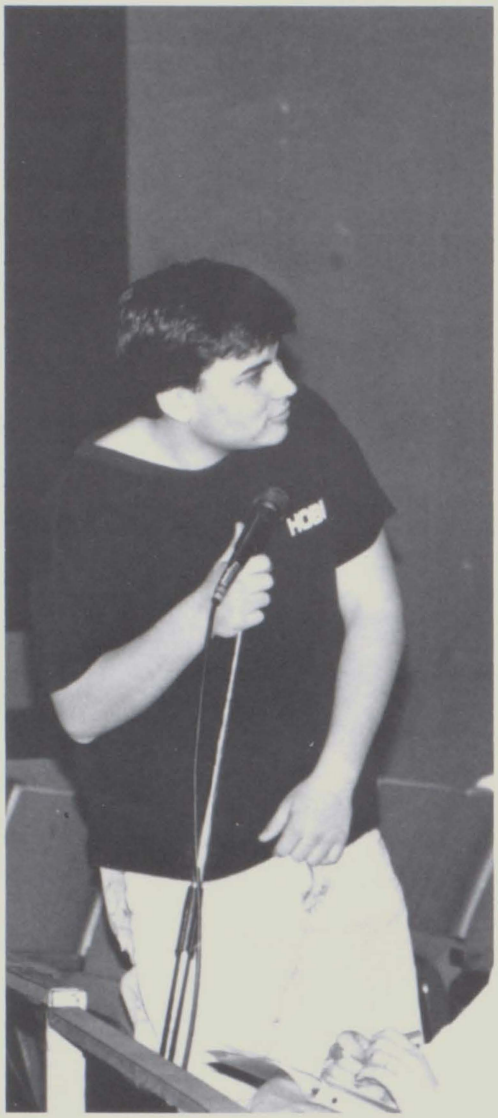
Above: Ms. Erin Albright, Student Council Co-sponsor, clarifies the role of social studies teachers regarding the January 16 outbreak of war in Saudi Arabia. (A January 18 Student Council meeting was called to discuss students' needs for enlightenment and support. Ms. Albright is flanked by Dr. Joan Tannenbaum and freshman Lauren Kramer-Dover.)
At left, freshman Al Suarez and junior Megan Noyes sell tickets at the door for the first dance of the school year, sponsored by the Student Council on Friday, September 7.

At left, Student Council President Aaron Spevacek (senior) addresses the student body at the January 30 Open Forum. (Mitch Falter is on his left.)

> "The Student Council is increasing its participation around the community."
> - Aaron Spevacek
> S.C. President

"When I think of my graduating class, I think of these words:

Peace
Love, and
Understanding."
- Andrew Hunt



Left, at the mike junior Christion Iraca addresses the issue of the smoking policy at the January 30 SCA forum. *Below,* junior Adriana Anderson and senior Rosemary Ragusa take a walk together at the October 20 Homecoming Dance, which was sponsored by the senior class. *Right,* senior Heather McGavin and junior Jason Robertson have fun at the Student Council-sponsored dance on September 7.

A lively crowd. Senior and juniors respond favorably to senior John Pitfido's plea for stall doors in the boys' bathrooms at the January 30 SCA open forum. Students were given opportunities to ask questions and voice opinions during this forty-five minute assembly.

"When I think of my graduating class, I think of these words:

Athletic,
Strong, and
Together."
- Andre Carley

Junior - Senior Bonding

"And, seniors, we hope you come out tonight for the junior class' Cold Sweat Dance because it's a fund raiser for your prom," said Mr. Greg Alexiou over the P.A. system on Friday morning, February 1. There was nothing subtle about that message!

Juniors and seniors bonded together on the first day of school. True, classes were important, but . . . They knew their priorities: working together, sharing, and planning an awesome May 18 prom.

Senior activities included the Homecoming Dance, a service project for the homeless, a new Senior Honor plan, a trip to Coolfont, and graduation. As class sponsor, Ms. Gail Nolan helped seniors get organized and avoid procrastinating on important issues.

Juniors were loyal supporters of senior activities. They realized they would reap the benefits of senior class accomplishments next year.

Ms. Gail Meighan, class sponsor, worked closely with the juniors who began fund raising in June with a car wash. Bake sales, two dances, and a successful November Variety Show made a super prom a reality.

Class President Stephanie Jones said, "Class officers formed five committees, allowing every junior to be a participating member. Every person had a role."

Juniors and seniors had a great time getting involved in each other's activities, bonding all the way.

"When I think of sophomores, three words come to my mind:
Spirited,
Energetic,
and Funny."
- Eugenia Leachman

Underclassmen Unite

In September, when students returned to school, June of '93 and '94 were just months on future calendars. Sophomores and freshmen were the underclassmen. Their high school graduations were not given top priority. What was important to them?

Sophomores had survived their freshmen year. Brian Chong said, "This is a good year because freshmen are below us and we're in between." It was time for them to unite as a class with the help of Sponsor Ms. Anna Kibble.

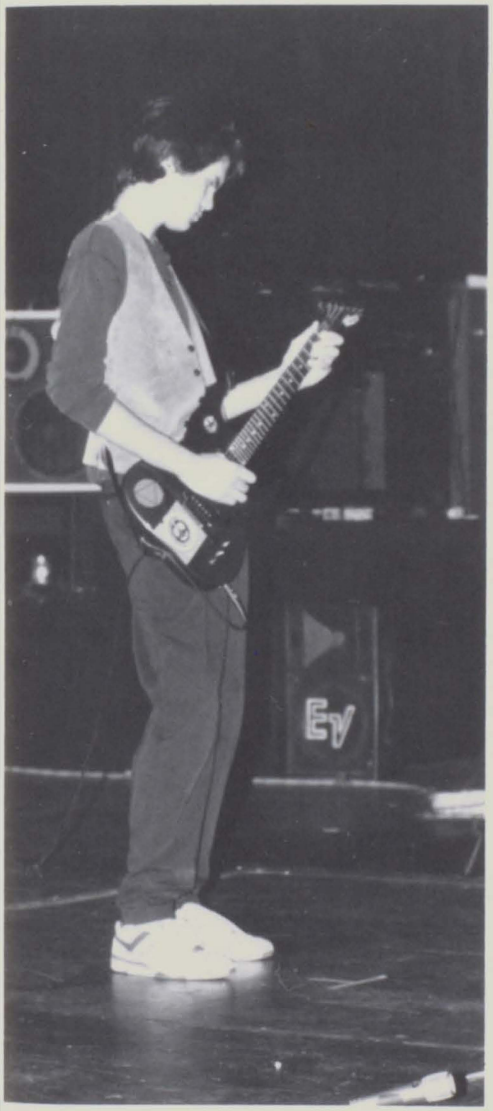
A wintertime dance with three student bands was "awesome," according to Eugenia Leachman. February was valentine grams' month. They also organized a "heart-to-heart" personal dating questionnaire service.

The freshmen had two sponsors: Ms. Judy Knoke and Ms. Georgette Schaefer, who helped them "get it together." They met every other Monday to determine what theme their April dance would have and to vote on a charity for fund raising purposes. (They chose The Children's Hospital.)

Freshman Class President Lauren Kramer-Dover said, "Assuming personal responsibility is the toughest part of high school." The Class of '94 united to face the challenge.

Voicing her opinion, sophomore Mandy Riedel discusses the smoking policy at a December 5 Student Council meeting. (Eugenia Leachman is on the left.)

Carnation Day. Sophomore Josh McCall reads his carnation notes to freshman Sharisse Herrick and Molly Ruland on October 18 during homecoming week.



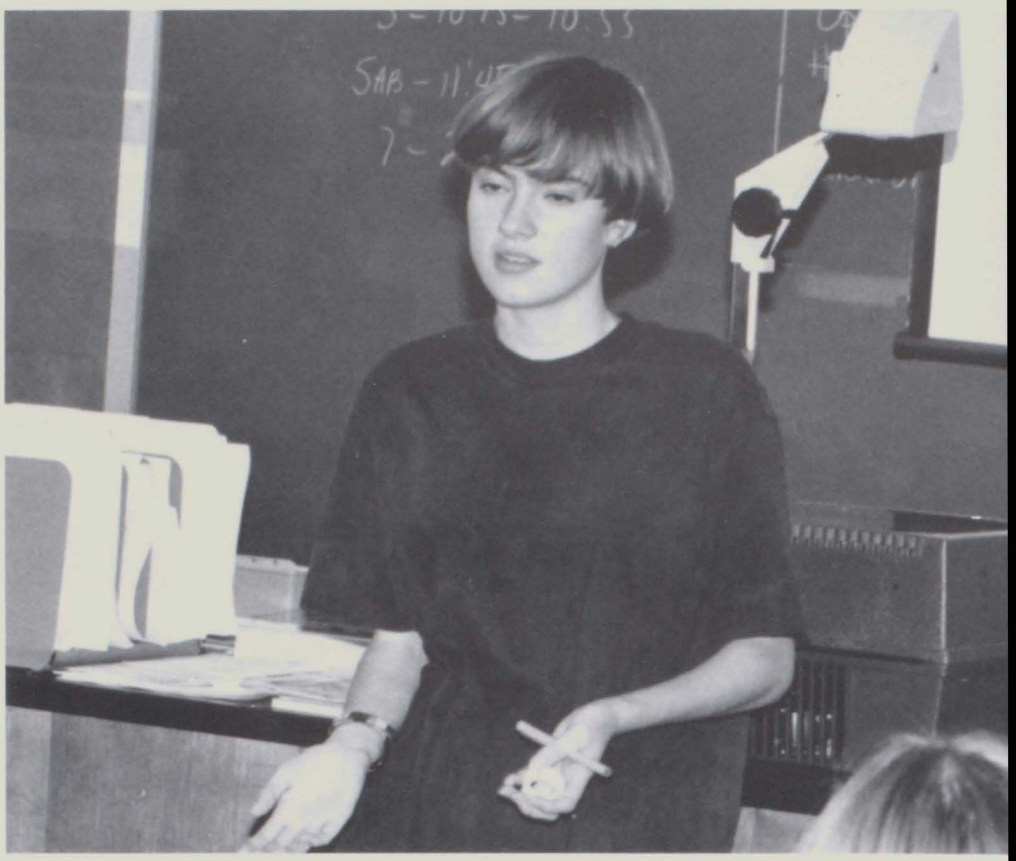
"When I think of freshmen, these three words come to my mind: Hardworking, Fun, and Cool."
- Sean Polzer

Above, a freshman meeting. Chris Yates (representative), Lisa Bolivar and Sean Polzer make plans for a freshman dance at a January meeting. The Freshman Class Council met every other Monday after school with faculty sponsors Judith Knoke and Georgette Schaefer.

Left, sophomore talent. self-taught guitarist Shawn Askin performs at the Junior Class Variety Show on November 29. Shawn's act, "Sign On," opened the show. He also performed in two other acts in Act I. (Although it was a junior-class sponsored event, underclassmen were in many acts.)

Ecology Club President Hannah Burke speaks to club members about the importance of their efforts to recycle aluminum and ban styrofoam.

At right, senior Kate Chamberlin, NHS membe lights a candle at the annual Induction Ceremon held on October 10 in the auditorium.



"The Ecology Club is really fun. We talk about the environment and see how we can help."
- Jenny Parra

"We want students to do their part to help."
- Hannah Burke

Service Club President Molly Henneberg reads a list of possible club projects to members.

ECOLOGY CLUB: Moji Ojumu, Brooke Wheaton, Justin Black, Hannah Burke, Sherri Renfrow, Nathalie Gons, Lydia Doleman, Jenny Parry, Mr. Alan Krueger (Sponsor).

SERVICE CLUB: First Row: Ms. Janet Weber (Co-sponsor), John Yates, Christy Ploch, Debbie Cory, Molly Henneberg, Marie Connaughton. *Second Row:* Bridget Singletary, Christine Walsh, Matt Kern, Heather McGavin, Jennifer Hoffman, Jennifer Preston, Ms. Mary Rita Ciciarelli (Co-sponsor), Cindy Wilson, Jane Brock. *Back Row:* Jason Robertson, Stacy Dewalt, Jonathan Dietz, Sasha Day, Deepa Menon.

Helping Out

"How can we do our part?" This was the Number One Question that concerned students asked if they were members of service clubs. These three clubs met only once every two weeks, but what they discussed and accomplished was important to the school and community.

The Ecology Club with Mr. Al Krueger as sponsor was a "new kid on the block." Senior Hannah Burke was the president of this two year-old club. It raised environmental awareness by promoting recycling, building compost units, and raising money to save the rainforest.

The Service Club, sponsored by Ms. Mary Rita Ciciarelli and Ms. Janet Weber, reached out to individuals and groups. They offered support to those in a crisis situation, such as students who were stressed by the war with Iraq. They also raised money for a scholarship for a graduating senior.

The National Honor Society, sponsored by Ms. Maria O'Connell, held high standards of scholarship, service, character and leadership. Members provided tutoring services to students.

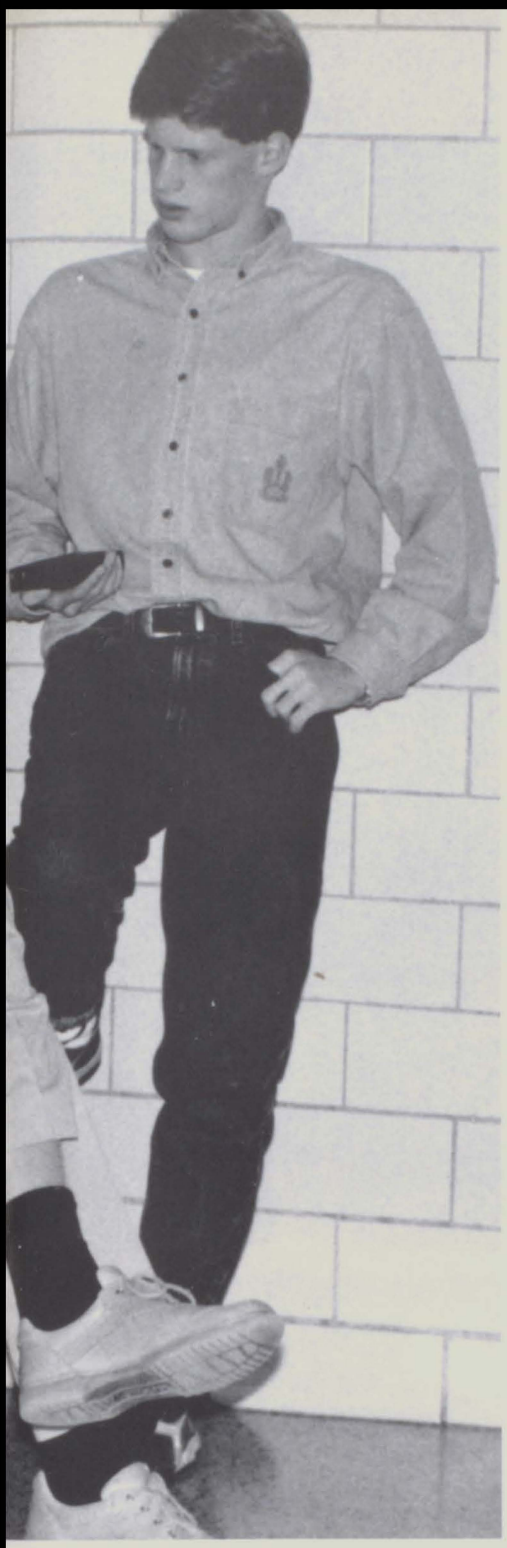
2:50 P.M. Sugar Fix. Seniors Kunnareath Tauch and Jennifer Preston run an NHS bake sale.

NHS (NEW MEMBERS): Front Row: Paul Whichard, Amanda Riedel, David Douglass, John Yates, Scarlet Wynns, Tallison Rausch, Peter Murchie. *Back Row:* Heather McGavin, Eric Reimers, Susan Stitt, Pilar Viccellio, Jane Brock, Reed Hecker, Stephanie Jones, Matt Kern. (Not photographed: Carolina Naupari and Jason Robertson)

Quiet time. Senior *Lasso* staffers Alison Sedei and Andrew Burk interview Mr. Al Krueger for an article on competition. *Below: Tempo* staffers Andy Hunt, John Blackwell and Michael Lake paint signs for their January 25 Funk Dance.

"I enjoy reading the stuff that students submit for our publication. It's a fun club to be a member of."
- Isabel Meng
Tempo Staffer

TEMPO STAFF: From Left: Production Editor Michael Lake, Editor Ellen Carlson, Ms. Sherri Benites (Adviser), Lisa Menendez, Laura Bain, Wayne Ferrebee, Genevieve Conaty, Ana Gupta.



Every Word Counts

Brainstorming sessions, (stress), photographs, graphics, (anxiety attacks), layouts, deadlines, (stress), budget problems, ad campaigns. These were just some of the things that publication club staffers had to face. They shared the headaches that just naturally went along with producing top quality student publications. They also shared the pride in receiving recognition from the school and the Virginia High School League.

Mr. Michael Hoover's journalism class published five *Lasso* issues, the Senior Stocking, special issues for plays and the war with Iraq, and Senior Wills. Mr. Frank Sheedy's print shop was as hectic as Santa's workshop in December.

Tempo produced a literary-art magazine, which was sold in the spring, as well as a 1991 calendar that was a great holiday gift. Ms. Gail Meighan was the fall adviser; Ms. Sherri Benites was the spring adviser.

The Yearbook Club had to meet four fall and winter deadlines in order to receive the *Mustang* on time. Ms. Nancy Tucker, the adviser, said, "It takes real commitment from students when they sign up for a work club."

> "I wanted to join something that would last forever. I wanted our memories to be intact."
> - Vanna Lam
> *Mustang* Staffer

LASSO STAFF: Front Row: Adam Jarrett, Ari Losman, Andy Hunt, Production Editor John Blackwell, Sarah Robinson, Mr. Michael Hoover (Adviser). *Second Row:* Alyssa Wilson, Christy Ploch, Heather McGavin, Editor-in-Chief Molly Henneberg, Sven Gronlie, Andrew Burk, Jason Robertson, Entertainment Editor Matt Kern, Assistant Editor Tallison Tausch, Natanya Barrow, Alison Sedei. *Back Row:* David Cook, John Genovese, Rob Rosholt, Sports Editor Zach Falter, Joe Gross.

MUSTANG STAFF: In Front: Photographers Craig Sirkin and Justin Black (also *Lasso* staffers). *Back Row:* Margaret Bryant, Stacy Dewalt, Jennifer Hoffman, Vanna Lam, Brian McLaughlin. (Absent: Mitch Falter, Margaret Muller, Katie Gray, Stacy Russ, David Cook)

Meeting of the minds. Model U.N. Club President Pilar Viccellio and Craig Sirkin (seniors) meet with students at other schools during a caucus at the Prince William County simulation in November.

Below, second year club member Margaret Muller, represents France at the 28th Annual North American Invitational Model United Nations, held at Georgetown University in mid-February. Students stayed at the Hilton during the four-day simulation.

Below right, guest speaker Ezzat Naguib from American University in Cairo, Egypt speaks to interested students in December about the Persian Gulf crisis.

Using the computer, math team members David Douglass (sophomore) and Jane Brock (junior), sitting; and Paul Whichard (sophomore) and John Wu (senior), standing, work problems in preparation for a competition.

MATH TEAM: Front Row: Kate Chamberlin, Carolina Naupari, Genevieve Conaty, Jane Brock. *Back Row:* Matt Fulwiler, Paul Whichard, David Douglass, Afolabi Ojumu, John Wu. The team earned a first place ranking in the State Single A math competition. Ms. Barbara Morris was their coach.

Quiet time. Mr. Richard Peloquin, co-sponsor of the Model U.N. Club, confers with members Sven Gronlie (senior), Sarah Robinson (junior), and John Wu (senior) at Garfield High School in November. Between sessions, students sought the co-sponsors' help in order to make their next moves.

A special moment. Junior Tallison Rausch, senior Pilar Viccellio and Co-Sponsor Gail Nolan prepare awards at the G.M. Model U.N. Conference (2/2).

Problem Solvers

Tests, challenges, competitions: three key words for Mustangs who just couldn't get enough of them in their regular course load. They had to have more to keep their brains satisfied.

Two organizations offered them plenty of problems to solve. The Math Team and the Model U.N. Club were fun as well as stimulating.

The Math Team had practices and meets several times a month. They had thirty-six minutes to solve up to six problems. Jane Brock said, "Nobody answers all of the questions." They participated in several area contests.

The Model U.N. consisted of forty globally conscious, socially-oriented students who enjoyed debating and participating in simulated U.N. conferences. Members became delegates of assigned countries (even Iraq!).

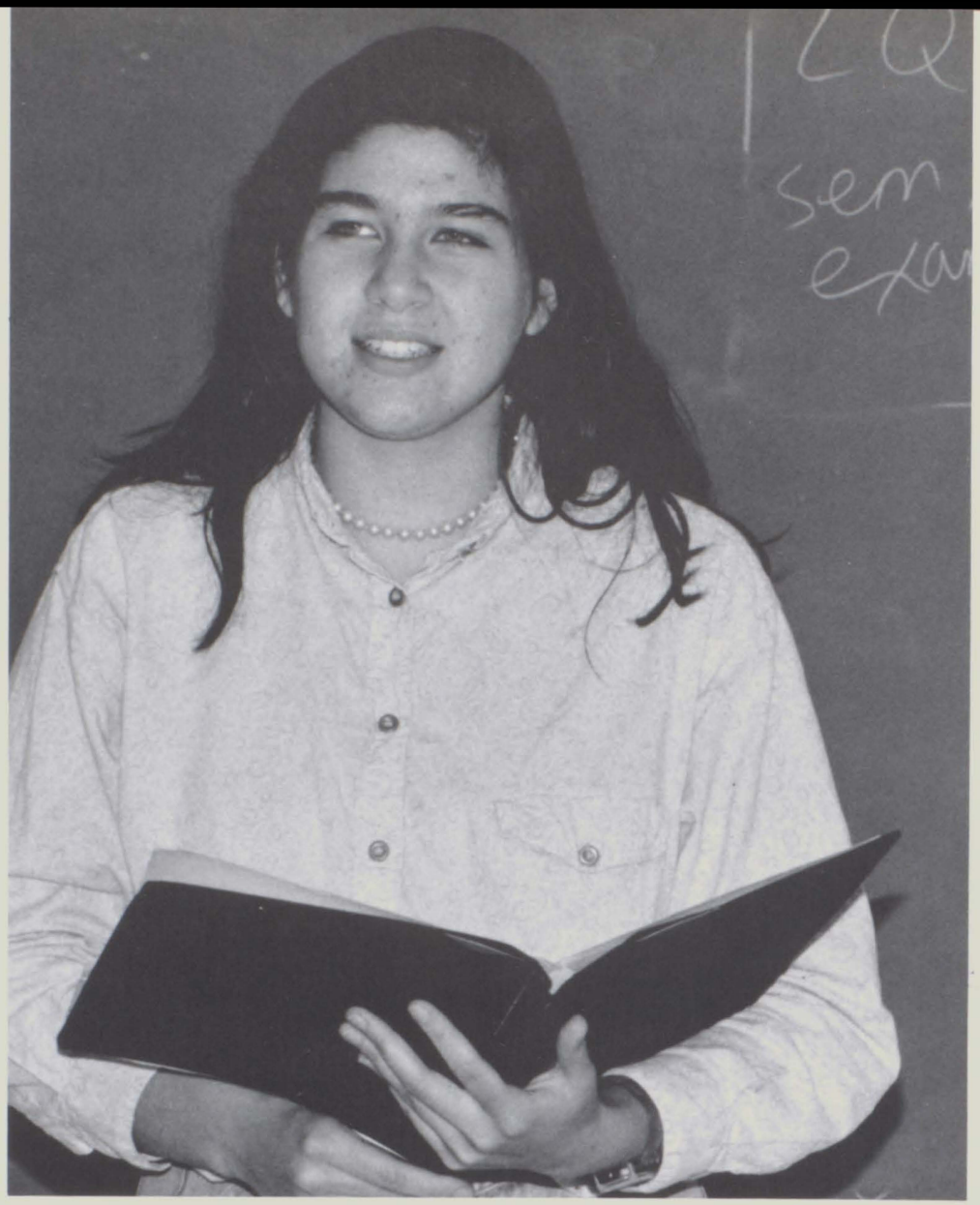
Senior Allen Scully said, "It's really fun, and I love it!" Freshman Mike Betz added, "It's a learning experience."

February was a busy month because there were two major simulations: the February 2 G.M. Model U.N. Conference and the February 14-17 one, sponsored by Georgetown International Relations Association. Three thousand attended!

The conflict in the Persian Gulf and the changing order in Europe were the dominant issues this year. They posed formidable challenges to club members.

Ms. Gail Nolan said that her aim was to have her students learn about the world they live in.

Practice time. At right junior Sarah Robinson rehearses serious dramatic interpretation. She won a second place award at the VHSL District Forensic Meet. *Below,* freshman Lauren Kramer-Dover rehearses humorous dramatic interpretation for which she won a second place award as well.



"I really enjoy being in Forensics. I like the freedom we are given to express ourselves. It's a lot of fun."
- L. Kramer-Dover

In The Limelight

You didn't have to be a professional to join Forensics or Drama Club. In fact, if you were shy, these were the perfect clubs for you!

The performance bug usually bit Mustangs in their freshman or sophomore years; however, it sometimes bit seniors! If it bit you, then you had to be "in the limelight" somehow, somewhere, before you graduated.

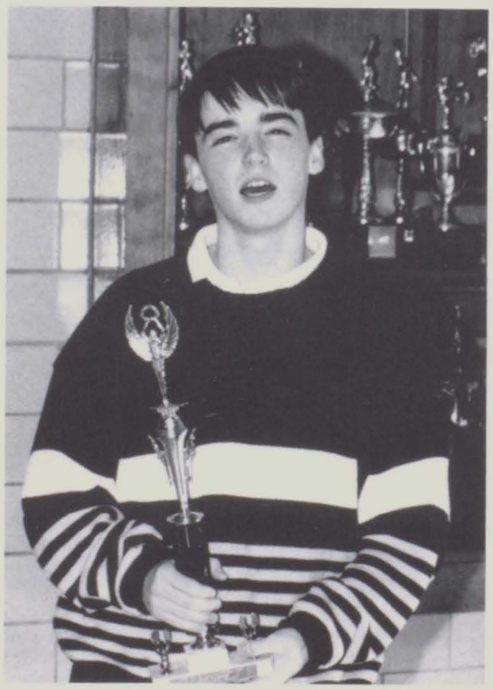
Forensics was a serious club with a serious agenda, but you still had a good time preparing for upcoming competitions. Ms. Carol Cofey and Ms. Elizabeth Gillespie were co-sponsors who coached and encouraged you to participate in a variety of categories for public speaking events.

Members of all grades selected material such as speeches and literary pieces to deliver or read in district, regional and statewide competitions. President Jane Brock said, "We have high hopes. Our team is really doing well."

If you wanted to be on stage as well as in the limelight, you tried out for parts in one or both of the plays. Mr. Jefferson Cronin was the director who used his own professional talents to coach students. He attempted two challenging plays: *The Memorandum* in the fall and Shakespeare's *Midsummer's Night Dream* the end of April.

Trapdoors, a slide, waterfalls, lots of greenery, and much more set the stage for the spring play.

Freshman Amie Camden, a fairy, said, "It was complicated to put on, but it was a whole lot of fun."

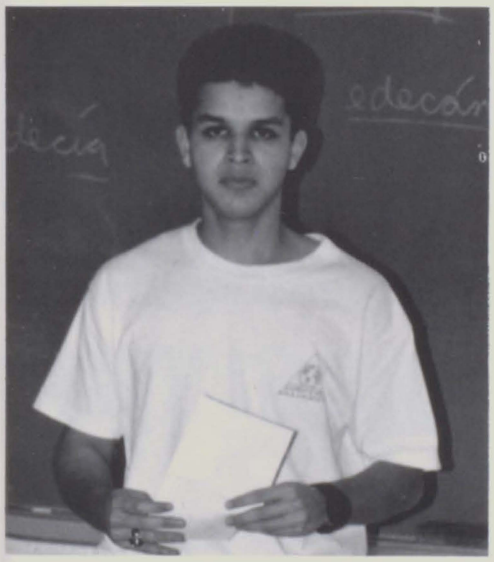


FORENSICS CLUB: Front Row: Afolabi Ojumu, Mario Salguero, Scarlet Wynns, Emily Hall, Lauren Kramer-Dover, Sara Brock, Ellen Wright, Matt Kern. *Back Row:* Ms. Elizabeth Gillespie (Co-Sponsor), Ms. Carol Cofey (Co-Sponsor), Mr. Bill Warrington (Bus Driver), Joe Gross, Jane Brock, Sarah Robinson.

Below left, side-by-side senior Rayne McGee, student director, and Mr. Jefferson Cronin, director, take notes during a rehearsal of *Memorandum,* the fall play.

"Forensics is a lot of fun. It gives you the opportunity to get up in front of an audience on a regular basis."
- Matt Kern

"Drama Club is great. I love to get up on stage and make a fool of myself in front of an audience."
- Meg Wiant



Above, junior Mario Salguero rehearses boys' oratory for which he won a second place VHSL award. *Left, first place winner* Matt Kern (junior) assumes a pose for boys' prose reading.

Time to try out. Freshman Susan Phillips, seniors David Cook and Daniel Brown, and freshman Meg Wiant prepare to read for *Memorandum* parts.

Serious musicians. Maurice Morillon, Meg Wiant and Sherrell Brown perform at the Annual Winter Band Concert.

A fund raiser. Freshmen Colman Burk and Peter Johnson sell baked goods during night school hours to help raise money for their spring band trip to the beach.

High School Band - Brass: First Row: Paul Whichard, Peter Johnson, John Schutte, Sean Polzer, Rob Karro. *Second Row:* Ms. Sharon Still (director), Jason Doolittle, Lars Howlett, Todd Horacek, Enio Aguilar, Chad Jackson, Courtney Hall, Allen Schneider, Justin Reich, Mr. Jon Carper (assistant director), Jessica Menendez. *Back Row:* Bernaldo Hernandez, Jamie Wilmoth, Trevor Krainik, Pat Thomas, Mike Noyes.

High School Band - Woodwind: First Row: Dione Herlinger, Lindsay Smith, Annemarie Wilson, Chris Rosholt, Margaret Bryant. *Second Row:* Maurice Morillon, Meg Wiant, Samantha Petrich, Vicky Spevacek, Mercedes Heil, Sherrell Brown, Denar Antelo. *Back Row:* Colman Burk, Peter Oh, Forrest McGhee, Nate Martin, Joel Hardi, Jennifer Hoffman, Paul Dampier, Rob Sprague.

The Magic Of Mason Music

"I still can't believe it's true. Why me?" asked senior Kate Chamberlin when she received news that she made it to All State Chorus. She was the first to receive this honor in seven years at Mason. Junior David Garrison was made an alternate.

Being in chorus gave students of all grades the opportunity to perform magic with their voices. They had a good time entertaining audiences at a variety of school and community events as well as participating in district and state-wide competitions.

Kate and senior Ellen Carlson were selected for the Virginia Honors Choir, so magical voices brought medals too

Band students of all grades created magic as well by wielding brass and woodwind instruments. Sixth period band class was a busy place. Forty students gathered together to play a variety of instruments. Band teacher Ms. Sharon Still and Assistant Jon Carper prepared the musicians for school performances and district and state-wide competitions.

Sophomore Paul Whichard created magic with his trombone. He won first chair at the February 22 All State Band audition. Only six were selected from Virginia!

Above, in formal attire, the High School Chorus performs at the Annual Winter Choral Concert. (Ms. Tess Raynor conducted the choir; senior Alex Dolmans from Belgium played the piano.)

At left, the High School Chorus: Row One: Lauren Kramer-Dover, Tsion Michael, Isabel Meng, Rosemary Ragusa, Michelle Yoder, David Garrison, Susannah Lehman. *Back Row:* Diana Dinerman, Amie Camden, Tiffany Smith, Kathleen Brill, Norman Lipps, Bethany Morde, Darren Lomis, Adam Stoffel, Ellen Wright, Leona Bienia, Adam Kallio, Chris Yates, Melinda Yeary, Sara Brock, Ms. Tess Raynor (choral leader).

Bottom Left, Contract Chorus Time. Ms. Tess Raynor helps three contract chorus students warm up with vocal exercises. *From Left:* Reid Hecker, Sarah Barber, Kate Chamberlin, Ms. Raynor. (This small class of nine students met on Wednesdays during the eighth period. Students earned a semester credit and had to perform in choral events.)

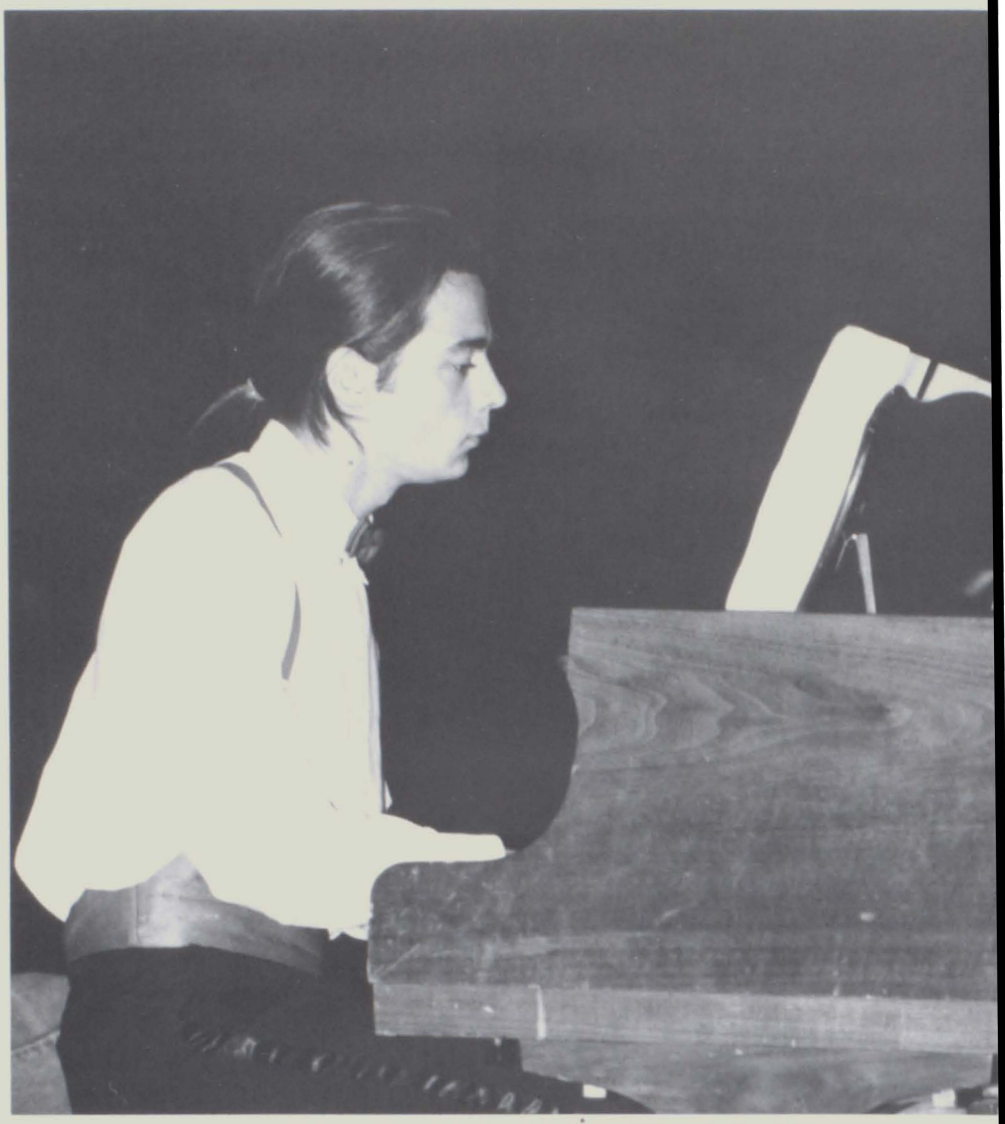
Cultural Awareness

Fourteen students knew what it meant to be a stranger in a foreign land. They realized the importance of making that person feel comfortable and helping him feel as if he belonged.

They belonged to the Cultural Exchange Club, which met every other Thursday in Ms. Linda Johnsen's room. This year was especially exciting because we had two foreign exchange students: Alex Dolmans from Belgium and Mathieu Redon from France. Club members gave their support to these two boys throughout the school year. By helping them adjust to American students' way of life, club members learned a lot about life abroad.

Bakes sales and Gummy Bear sales raised a lot of money for organizations that helped needy children around the world. Simply speaking, this club cared about others. They wanted to make a difference.

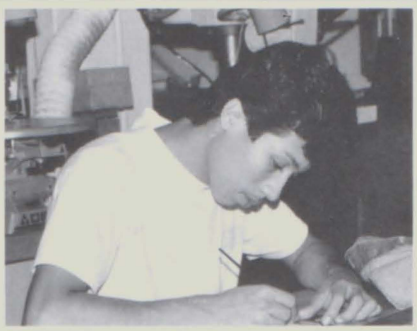
President Kunnareath Tauch said, "This club really opens our eyes to other cultures. It's great!"



In formal attire. Senior Alex Dolmans, one of two foreign exchange students, plays piano at the Annual Winter Choral Concert in December.

Meeting time. Senior Kunnareath Tauch, president of the Cultural Exchange Club, and Faculty Sponsor Ms. Linda Johnsen prepare to begin a meeting.

Cultural Exchange Club: Front Row: Jennifer Preston, Thu Do (Vice-Pres.), Ms. Linda Johnsen, Kunnareath Tauch, Liz Sikkar. *Back Row:* Rob Rosholt, Jessica Menendez, Kate Fletcher, Bridget Singletary, Sarah Robinson, Emily Hall.



The Many Faces Of Mustangs

Snack time. Ms. Marcy Jacomet, president of the George Mason Booster Club, sells some candy to freshman Seth Kingsley. The Booster Club ran the concession stand during home games. Throughout the year it supported many functions as well as gave financial assistance.

Above, Falls Church School Board: Front Row: Ms. Michele Black (Vice Chairman); Dr. Jeffrey Tarbert (Chairman); Dr. Warren J. Pace (Division Superintendent). *Back Row:* Ms. Jane Scully, Mr. Philip Walsh, Ms. Jann Murchie, Mr. Michael Laub, Ms. Ruth Brock.

Right, in honor of ESL students and their families, the Zheng family attend a picnic on October 7. From left, freshman Karen Zheng, Mr. Jie Zheng and Ms. Lucy Zheng, who arrived in Falls Church from China in August. Ms. Grace Rissetto planned this function, which included faculty, students and their families, and community members.

Great tunes. Mr. Jon Carper conducts the Pep Band along with some of his Army buddies during intermission at the October 20 homecoming game.

The George Mason PTSA would like to thank the following for their generous support of the 1991 All Night Alcohol and Drug-free Graduation Party:

Department of Motor Vehicles
George Mason Athletic Boosters Association
Junior Women's Club of Falls Church
Falls Church Education Association
Falls Church City School Board
American Airlines
Sheraton World Result - Orlando
Sea World of Florida
Rounds Van Duzer Associates
Don Beyer Volvo
Intelligent Solutions
League of Women Voters of Falls Church
Village Preservation and Improvement Society
Greater Falls Church Chamber of Commerce
Virginia Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD)
Laurel Rebekah Lodge
Technitrux (Machine Transfer & Installation)
Roy Rogers Family Restaurants (now Hardee's)
Anthony's Pizza and Restaurant
Italian Cafe
Giant Food
Domino's Pizza
Mountain Jack's Restaurant
Akropol Restaurant
Coco-Cola Corporation
Falls Church Library
Carpet Royal & Rug
The Washington Post
WAVA Radio 105 FM
Economy Party Supplies; Economy Office Supplies
Northern Virginia Red Cross Association
Falls Church Police Association
Dominion Camera
Cafe Rose
Haandi Restaurant
Baskin Robbins Ice Cream of Falls Church
King's Hallmark Collection
Panjshir Restaurant
Fairfax County Party Authority
King's Dominion
Watson, Salsbury, D'Angelo Pediatrics
Creative Hairdressers
General Trade Company, Jewelery and Gifts
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John P. Kennar, DDS
Irwin S. Feldman, DDS
Jack Walters, CPA

Alfred G. Griffin, DDS
Miriam Roland; MD
Northern Virginia Pediatric Association
James Dryden, DDS
Ed Strait
CED/Catalano Lighting
Spa LaDY
Brown Hardware
Villa Maria Work/Study Centre
George R. Keough, DDS
Gerald & Ruth Brock
Harold & Ida Silverstein
Franklin & Jessie Thackery
William & Claire Stitt
Wayne & Jane Dexter
Dave & Noel Spevacek
Joyce Harvey
Edith Abramson
William & Margaret Singletary
Mr. and Mrs. VanDohlen
Malcolm & Jane Scully
Robert & Vicki Daube
George & Barbara Robinson
Charles & Carol Jackson
John & Mary Baumgarner
Harry & Grace Rissetto
Robert Grille
Mr. & Mrs. Garner
Murray Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Swift
Mr. & Mrs. McIntire
Lynn Patton
Mr. & Mrs. Carson
Mr. & Mrs. Barbanbodan
Mr. & Mrs. Conable
Mr. & Mrs. Herlinger
Mr. & Mrs. Leland
Mrs. Arons
Mr. & Mrs. Lee
Mr. & Mrs. Wynns
Rosemary Condit
Sally Phillips
Diana Ripple
Cricket Moore
Maryanne Leach
Elsa Hobart
Ellie Karro
Mr. & Mrs. Hedetniemi

Dear Seniors,
Good luck;
good reading!

Mrs. Meighan

Dear Seniors,
It tasks me; it heaps me!
Congratulations.

Mr. Hoover

Dear John, Roberto, Greg, Jose, Monique, Medena and Juha,
I'll miss you! Best of luck in the coming years. Love,

Mrs. Johnson

To a terrific bunch of guys -

We'll miss you!

the Scullys

BEST WISHES TO THE 1991 SENIOR CLASS. ESPECIALLY ANDREW, ERIC AND TRAVIS.

LOVE,
MOM CRAIG

Andrew, With your spirit and energy you will touch the stars. I'm so proud of you.

Love,
Dad

Way to go, KATE!
LOVE
MOM, DAD, & DAN

Dear Seniors -

We will miss you *all!*

Dr. T. and her TA

A mis alumnos superinteligentes,
Me ha sido un gran placer estar con Uds. Les deseo suerte y éxito en el futuro.

Un abrazo de Senor Snee

¡Felicidades, Pilar!
Bien hecho, y con gran esperanzas para el futuro.

Papá, Mamá, Ben y Lucci

Dear James,
Congratulations on your graduation. You have a great future ahead of you!

Love,
Jim, Sylvia and Heidi

Dear Michael,
Welcome home from the print shop. We're very proud of you and pleased to see you!

Love,
Mom, Dad and Trigger

Dear Dallas,
CONGRATULATIONS!
The future is yours. Good Luck!!

Love,
Dad, Mom, Mercedes

BOB,
WE ARE PROUD OF YOU.

Love,
Dad, Jeff & Laura

Congratulations and Best Wishes to our Seniors
Heather Anderson, Cheryl Chucoski, Tracie Holcombe, Barbara McNeill, and Tamara Smith.
"Mrs. Lowry's TA"

Class of '91:
As you go in new directions with your life, may the memories of your high school years be a source of happiness for you always. Congratulations.
Overton & Jan Day

Mitch,
We couldn't be more proud of you! You've done a terrific job! We think you're great!
Love, Mom and Dad

Zach,
Your accomplishments are many, and we are proud of all of them! You really outdid yourself!
Love, Mom and Dad

Mitch, Zach and All Your Friends,
You guys are the best! George Mason won't be the same without you. Good luck out there in the big world. We will miss all of you.
Mr. and Mrs. Falter

To Mitch, *Thanks for hangin' in there for two years! I'll miss you.* To Craig, Michael and Justin, *Thanks, guys, for answering my SOS calls!* To Andy, *a bear hug and my thanks!* To Sasha and Christy, *you're very special to me! And so are you,* Thu! *Love, Mrs. Tucker*

DEAR SENIORS,
The 1991 Mustang *staff congratulates you as you leave George Mason and go where life takes you. You are UNMISTAKABLY a wonderful class. BE PROUD OF YOURSELVES!*

Susan ...
May you advance confidently in the direction of your dreams. Your accomplishments, that shine so brightly in our hearts, can easily be seen.
We did, we do and we will...
Love you !
Congratulations Graduate !
Mom, Dad and Ned

Dear Thu Do,

We are going to miss your nice, great help in our English classroom. Thank you for your kindness. We will miss your pretty smile!

Love, Anna, Michael, Mauricio, Elizabeth, Gariene, Isel and Ms. Hopes

CONGRATULATIONS

and all good wishes
to the
Class of 1991.

The Falls Church
School Board

WISHES FROM OUR ESL STUDENTS:

Felicidades por el
exito logrado
"Su Graduacion"

CHÚC TẤT CẢ CÁC
BẠN Ở LỚP 12
HỌC HÀNH THÀNH
CÔNG

努力学习
祝您成功
勤奋刻苦

OUR SPECIAL PATRONS

Lt. Gen. & Mrs. Henry Viccellio, Jr.
Sylvia & Jim Hooper
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Shannon
Jackie & Dan Henneberg

The yearbook staff would like to thank every Mustang who contributed to this year's publication in his or her own unique way. Our special thanks go to Mr. Michael Hoover, the *Lasso* staff, and Ms. Helen Eitt, finance secretary.

Congratulations, Molly! You did it! Now you have to start making your own lunches. We love you.
Mom, Dad, Robert, Amanda, William, and Max

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Sports-minded. Hard at work, sophomore Margaret Muller and senior Mitch Falter complete a sports assignment for the *Mustang.*

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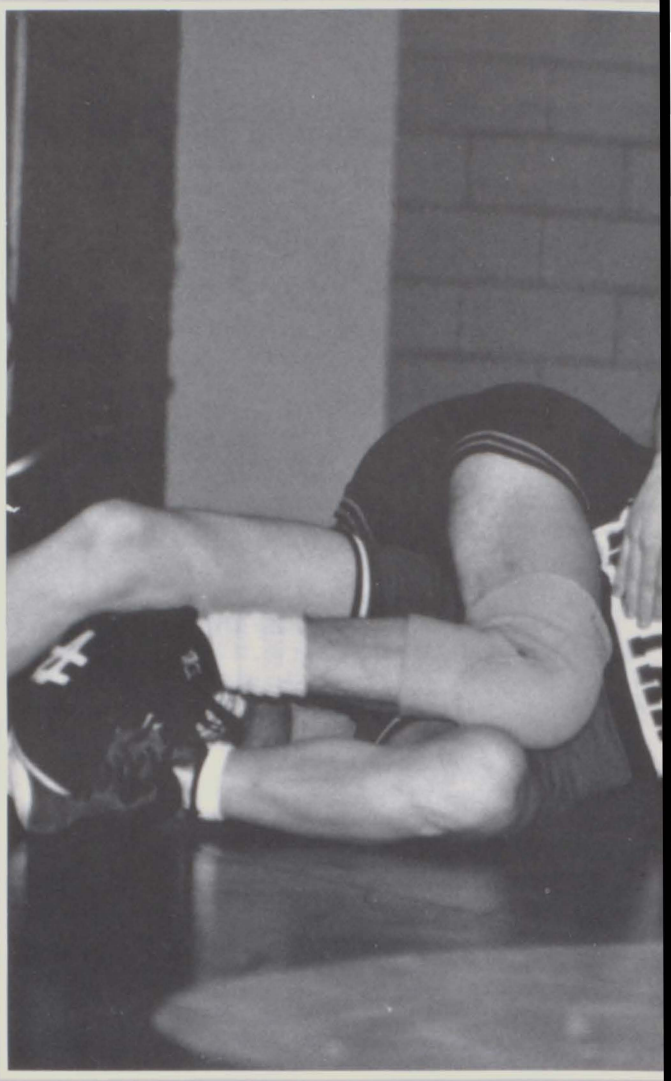
For Mustangs Only!

We Did It All The Mustang Way. In Fact It Was A Tradition To Start The School Year With Energy Enough To Tackle New Challenges. At Times It Was Rough Going, But We Made It!

True, There Were Budget Cuts, Disappointments And Failures. That Was Life. But The Mustang Way Was The Way To Go.

It All Began With A Challenge Statement, Fourteen New Staff Members, All-Freshman TA's, A More Caring Look At The ESL Program, And Channel 38 Cable TV To Tell Us About Everything Mustang Related. R.C. Dennee, A New Student, Said, "I Like It Here. Everything Works."

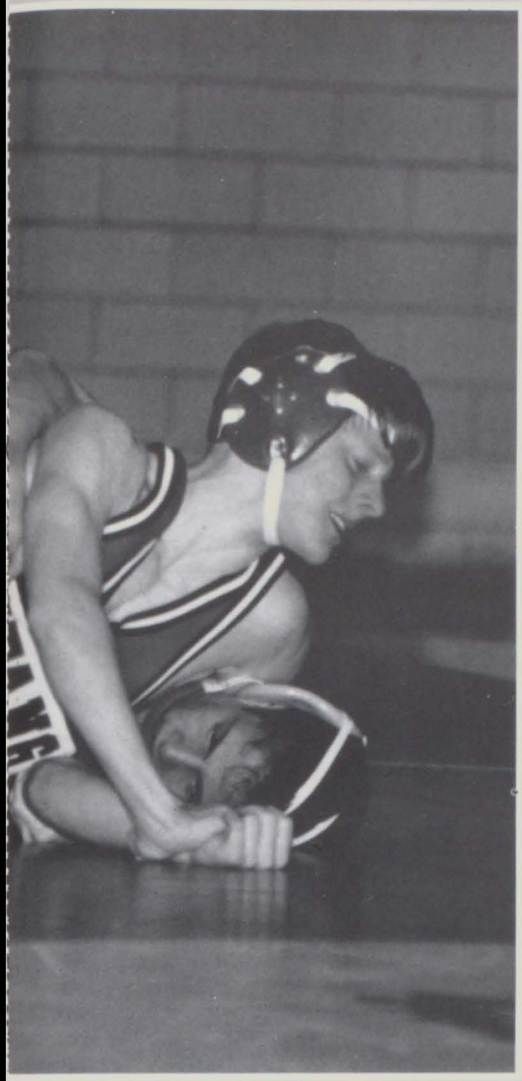
Senior Carolina Naupari Reflected On Her Years At George Mason: "We Really Can Make Changes Here. Take Seniors' Honor, For Example." Only Mustangs Could Fully Understand And Appreciate What We Had Going For Us.



Tackling math problems. Senior Tamara Smith and junior Elena Roa concentrate on classwork.

Jersey Day. Showing school spirit, Ms. Marjory Speir (secretary) wears junior Andrew Swift's football jersey during homecoming week.

A look into the future. Dr. George Thoms, principal, points out architectural features of the future George Mason at a faculty meeting.

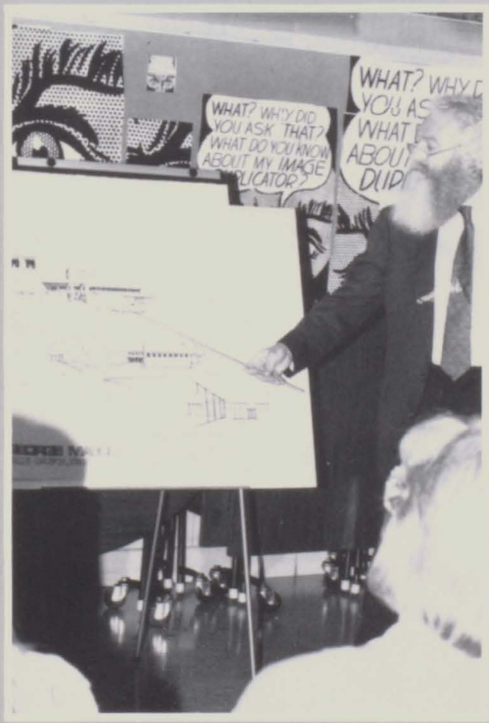


In a good position. Sophomore Aaron Smith (112 lb. wt. class) attempts to turn his opponent in the December 12 match against Randolph Macon.

A computer whiz. Junior Peter Murchie works on a flight simulator in Mr. Alan Graham's technical drawing class, a pre-engineering course.

"I like how each student is an individual here. Communication between people in this school is great. We are friendly to newcomers."
- Aaron Smith

"George Mason is the best school around. It probably has the best equipment, and it has the best teachers! I like the friendliness."
- Marco Mercer



"In Spite Of The Daily News About Recession And The Prospects Of War, The Beginning Of A New Year Brings With It Hope, Possibilities, And The Prospect Of New Opportunity For Each Of Us. As Individuals, Our Impact And Influence On The World At Large May Be Rather Insignificant, But Our Value And Importance To Life And Times At George Mason Is And Has Been Real And Very Significant. As Individuals And Collectively, Our Presence And Our Engagement In The Life Of Our School Makes A Difference."
- Dr. George Thoms

From a December 20, 1990 letter addressed to parents, guardians and students.

A Mustang crowd at a football game.

Dr. George Thoms shakes junior Jason Robertson's hand at the NHS inductions.

Asst. Principal Greg Alexiou talks to brothers Brian and Marco Mercer.

Senior Medena Small is held up by varsity cheerleaders.

Junior soccer player Adam Jarrett cleans out his locker.

It could only have happened at George Mason. It was an unmistakably MUSTANG kind of year!

JOSTENS